

*John C. Fremont*  
REPORTS

OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE

ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,

FROM JUNE 1862, TO AND INCLUDING THE BATTLE AT  
FREDERICKSBURG, DEC. 13, 1862.

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IN TWO VOLUMES.

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# BATTLE OF CEDAR RUN.

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## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL JACKSON.

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS, A. N. V., }  
April 4, 1863. }

Brigadier General R. H. CHILTON,  
*Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General,*  
*Headquarters Department Northern Virginia:*

GENERAL: I have the honor herewith to submit to you a report of the operations of my command in the battle of Cedar Run, on the 9th day of August, 1862:

Intelligence having reached the commanding General that Gordonsville was endangered by the approach of the enemy, I was ordered to move in that direction with Ewell's and Jackson's divisions, from my position on the Mechanicsville turnpike, near Richmond. I arrived near Gordonsville on the 19th day of July. From information received respecting the strength of the opposing Federal army, under General Pope, I requested the commanding General to reinforce me. He accordingly sent forward Major General A. P. Hill, with his division. On the 2nd of August, whilst Colonel (now Brigadier General) W. E. Jones, by direction of Brigadier General Robertson, was moving with the seventh Virginia cavalry to take charge of picket posts on the Rapidan, he received intelligence, before he reached Orange Court-House, that the enemy was in possession of the town. Finding the main street filled with Federal cavalry, Colonel Jones boldly charged the head of the Federal column, whilst its flank was attacked by another portion of the regiment, under Major Marshall. Both attacks were successful and the enemy was hastily driven from the town; but as our cavalry was vastly outnumbered, it was soon after forced to fall back, in consequence of the enemy's greatly superior force in front, and the fire from his flanking parties. Upon Colonel Jones' subsequent show of resistance, near where the engagement commenced, the enemy retired a short distance, and about an hour afterwards retreated. Whilst Colonel Jones was gallantly lead-

ing his men in the charge he received a sabre wound. I regret to say that, during the engagement, Major Marshall was captured.

Having received information that only part of General Pope's army was at Culpeper Court-House, and hoping, through the blessing of Providence, to be able to defeat it before reinforcements should arrive there, Ewell's, Hill's and Jackson's divisions were moved, on the 7th, in the direction of the enemy, from their respective encampments near Gordonsville. On the morning of the 8th, the enemy's cavalry, north of the Rapidan, was driven back by ours, under Brigadier General Robertson. Our cavalry pursued the enemy's on the direct road from Barnett's ford to Culpeper Court-House, and was followed by the other troops, Ewell's division leading. As the Federal cavalry subsequently displayed unusual activity, and, from reports received by me, was seriously endangering the train of Jackson's division, I directed General Lawton to guard it with his brigade. He was thus thrown in rear of the division, and prevented from taking part in the battle of the following day.

On the 9th, as we arrived within about eight miles of Culpeper Court-House, we found the enemy in our front, near Cedar Run, and a short distance west and north of Slaughter's Mountain. When first seen, his cavalry, in large force, occupied a ridge to the right of the road. A battery, under Lieutenant Terry, opened upon the cavalry, which soon forced it to retire. Our fire was responded to by some guns beyond the ridge, from which the Federal advance had just been driven. Soon after this, the enemy's cavalry returned to the position where it was first seen. General Early was ordered forward, keeping near the Culpeper road, whilst General Ewell, with his two remaining brigades, Trimble's and Hays', (the latter commanded by Colonel Forno,) diverged from the road to the right, advancing along the western slope of Slaughter's Mountain. General Early, forming his brigade in line of battle, moved into the open field, and passing a short distance to the right of the road, but parallel to it, pushed forward, driving the Federal cavalry before him to the crest of a hill, which overlooked the ground between his troops and the opposite hill, along which the enemy's batteries were posted. In his front the country was, for some distance, open and broken. A corn-field, and, to the left of it, a wheat-field, upon which the shocks were yet standing, extended to the opposite hill, which was covered with timber. So soon as Early reached the eminence described, the Federal batteries were opened upon him. Large bodies of cavalry were seen in the wheat-field to the left. General Early having retired his troops under the protection of the hill, Captain Brown, with one piece, and Captain Dement, with three pieces of artillery, planted their guns in advance of his right and opened a rapid and well directed fire upon the Federal batteries. By this time, General Winder, with Jackson's division, had arrived, and, after having disposed Campbell's brigade, Lieutenant Colonel Garnett commanding, to the left, under cover of the wood, near the wheat field, Taliaferro's brigade, parallel to the road, in rear of the batteries of Poague, Carpenter, and Caskie, then being placed near the road, under the

direction of Major Andrews, chief of artillery of the division, and Winder's brigade, Colonel Ronald commanding, as a reserve, he was proceeding to direct, with his usual skill and coolness, the movements of those batteries, when he was struck by a shell, from which he expired in a few hours. It is difficult within the proper reserve of an official report, to do justice to the merits of this accomplished officer. Urged by the medical director to take no part in the movements of the day, because of the then enfeebled state of his health, his ardent patriotism and military pride could bear no such restraint. Richly endowed with those qualities of mind and person which fit an officer for command, and which attract the admiration and excite the enthusiasm of troops, he was rapidly rising to the front rank of his profession. His loss has been severely felt. The command of Jackson's division now devolved upon Brigadier General William B. Taliaferro, whose brigade during the remainder of the action was commanded by Colonel A. G. Taliaferro.

In the meantime General Ewell, with the brigades of Trimble and Hays, reached the northwest termination of Slaughter's Mountain, and, upon an elevated spot about two hundred feet above the valley below, had planted Lattimer's guns, which opened with marked effect upon the enemy's batteries. For some two hours a rapid and continuous fire of artillery was kept up on both sides. Our batteries were well served, and damaged the enemy seriously. Especial credit is due Major Andrews for the success and gallantry with which his guns were directed until he was severely wounded and taken from the field. About five o'clock, the enemy threw forward his skirmishers through a corn field, and advanced his infantry, until then concealed in the wood, to the rear and left of his batteries. Another body of infantry, apparently debouching from one of those vallies hid from the view by the undulating character of the country, moved upon Early's right, which rested near a clump of cedars, where the guns of Brown and Dement were posted.

The infantry fight soon extended to the left and centre. Early became warmly engaged with the enemy on his right and front. He had previously called for reinforcements. As General Hill had arrived with his division, one of his brigades, General Thomas', was sent to Early, and joined him in time to render efficient service. Whilst the attack upon Early was in progress, the main body of the Federal infantry moved down from the wood, through the corn and wheat fields, and fell with great vigor upon our extreme left, and, by the force of superior numbers, bearing down all opposition, turned it, and poured a destructive fire into its rear. Campbell's brigade fell back in disorder. The enemy pushing forward, and the left flank of Taliaferro's brigade being, by these movements, exposed to a flank fire, fell back, as did also the left of Early's line, the remainder of his command holding its position with great firmness.

During the advance of the enemy, the rear of the guns of Jackson's division becoming exposed, they were withdrawn. At this critical moment Branch's brigade, of Hill's division, with Winder's brigade further to the left, met the Federal forces, flushed with their tempo-

rary triumph, and drove them back with terrible slaughter, through the wood. The fight was still maintained with obstinacy, between the enemy and the two brigades just named, when Archer and Pender coming up, a general charge was made, which drove the enemy across the field into the opposite woods, strewing the narrow valley with their dead. In this charge, Archer's brigade was subjected to a heavy fire. At this time the Federal cavalry charged upon Taliaferro's brigade with impetuous valor; but were met with such determined resistance by Taliaferro's brigade in its front, and by so galling a fire from Branch's brigade in flank, that it was forced rapidly from the field, with loss and in disorder.

In the meantime, General Ewell, on the right, found himself kept back from advancing by the incessant fire from our batteries in the valley, which swept his only approach to the enemy's left. This difficulty no longer existing, he moved with his two brigades, Trimble's in the advance, and pressed forward under a heavy fire from the enemy's artillery, the front covered by skirmishers from the fifteenth Alabama, and the brigades advancing in echelon of regiments. Thus repulsed from our left and centre, and now pressed by our right, centre and left, the Federal force fell back at every point of their line, and commenced retreating, leaving their dead and wounded on the field of battle. Though late, I was so desirous of reaching Culpeper Court-House before morning, as to induce me to pursue. The advance was accordingly ordered—General Hill, with his division leading; but owing to the darkness of the night, it was necessary to move cautiously. Stafford's brigade, which was in front, captured some prisoners. Before we had probably advanced more than a mile and a half, Farrow, my most reliable scout, reported to me that the enemy was but a few hundred yards from our advance. Pegram's battery, supported by Field's brigade, soon took position just beyond the wood through which we had passed, and opened upon the enemy. This well directed and unexpected fire produced much disorder and confusion among that portion of the Federal troops. Three batteries were, however, soon opened in reply, and a heavy cannonade was continued for some time, causing Captain Pegram severe loss and silencing him.

In the meantime, Colonel Jones, with the seventh Virginia cavalry, had passed to our right and front. He succeeded in capturing some prisoners, one of whom reported that Federal reinforcements had arrived. Believing it imprudent to continue to move forward during the darkness, I ordered a halt for the night.

On the following morning, (10th,) having reason to believe the Federal army had been so largely reinforced as to render it imprudent for me to attempt to advance further, directions were given for sending the wounded to the rear, for burying the dead, and collecting arms from the battle field. In the course of the same morning, General J. E. B. Stuart arrived on a tour of inspection. At my request he took command of the cavalry, and made a reconnoissance for the purpose of gaining information respecting the numbers and movements of the enemy. From his report, as well as from other sources of information, I was confirmed in my opinion that the heavy forces

concentrated in front, rendered it unwise, on my part, to renew the action. The main body of my troops were, however, so posted as to receive the attack, if the enemy decided to advance.

On the 11th, a flag of truce was received from the enemy, who requested permission, until two o'clock, to remove and bury his dead, not already interred by our troops. This was granted and the time subsequently extended, by request of the enemy, to five in the morning.

We captured four hundred prisoners, and among them Brigadier General Prince; five thousand three hundred and two small arms, one twelve-pounder Napoleon and its caisson, with two other caissons and a limber; three colors, by Winder's brigade, one being from the fifth Connecticut, and another from the twenty-eighth New York.

The official reports of the casualties of my command in this battle show a loss of nineteen officers killed and one hundred and fourteen wounded; of non-commissioned officers and privates, two hundred and four killed and nine hundred and forty-six wounded, with thirty-one missing, making two hundred and twenty-three (223) killed, and one thousand and sixty (1,060) wounded. Total loss of killed, wounded and missing, one thousand three hundred and fourteen (1,314.) This loss was probably about one-half that sustained by the enemy.

I remained in position until the night of the 11th, when I returned to the vicinity of Gordonsville, in order to avoid being attacked by the vastly superior force in front of me, and with the hope that by thus falling back, General Pope would be induced to follow me until I should be reinforced.

The conduct of officers and men during the battle merits great praise. My chief of artillery, Colonel S. Crutchfield, ably discharged his duties. In the prompt transmission of orders, great assistance was received from Major E. F. Paxton, A. A. A. G.; Captain A. S. Pendleton, A. A. G.; First Lieutenant J. K. Boswell, Chief Engineer; First Lieutenant J. G. Morrison, A. D. C.; First Lieutenant H. K. Douglass, A. I. G.; First Lieutenant J. T. L. Snead, of the engineer corps; Colonel Wm. L. Jackson, volunteer A. D. C., and Colonel A. R. Boteler, volunteer A. D. C. The wounded received special attention from my medical director, Dr. Hunter McGuire. The quartermaster and commissary departments were well managed during the expedition by their respective chiefs, Major J. A. Harman and Major W. J. Hawks.

For further information respecting the detailed movement of troops and conduct of individual officers and men, I would respectfully call your attention to the accompanying official reports of other officers.

Two maps, by Mr. J. Hotchkiss—one of the route of the army during the expedition and the other of the battle-field—are transmitted herewith.

In order to render thanks to God for the victory at Cedar Run, and other past victories, and to implore His continued favor in the future, divine service was held in the army on the 14th of August.

I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. JACKSON, Lieutenant General.

*LIST showing the killed and wounded in the army commanded by Major General Jackson in the battle of Cedar Run.*

Divisions.	Officers.		Enlisted men.		Enlisted men. Missing.
	Killed.	Wounded.	Killed.	Wounded.	
Jackson's,.....	12	65	145	472	31
Ewell's,.....	3	17	14	161	..
A. P. Hill's,.....	4	32	45	313	..
Total,.....	19	114	204	946	31

Total killed, wounded and missing, 1,314.

## REPORT OF GENERAL EWELL.

RICHMOND VIRGINIA, March 6, 1863.

Colonel C. J. FAULKNER,

*Assistant Adjutant General :*

SIR : I have the honor to report, as follows, the movements of my division at Cedar Run, on the 9th August, 1862:

My division followed the cavalry advance, and when we reached the south end of the valley, the enemy's cavalry were seen in strong force in our front. A reconnoissance was made, and artillery fired on the enemy, which drove them back, soon to re-appear. It was evident that the enemy intended to make a stand at this place. Shortly after one o'clock, my division was ordered forward. Early's brigade, under cover of the woods, to the left, Trimble's and Forno's brigades on the right, Dement's Maryland artillery, Brown's, Chesapeake artillery, D'Aquin's Louisiana artillery, were posted in the valley, and served with effect, under the general direction of Major Ccurtnay, in the plain. I reached the point of Slaughter's Mountain, with the two brigades of Trimble and Forno, and established, from a commanding position, Latimer's battery, with a section of Johnson's, under Lieutenant Terry, which opened, with marked effect, on the enemy, drawing much of the artillery fire which had been concentrated against our left wing. Captain Latimer was advanced later in the evening, so as to obtain a more effective position. The enemy moved a section of artillery to meet this fire and protect their left flank. Captain Latimer exhibited his usual coolness and judgment. Major Lowther was ordered forward with the fifteenth Alabama, deployed as skirmishers, against the enemy's left flank. They were exposed to the fire of artillery, which they supported with unflinching bravery, and led the later movements from our right. I found that a mill pond stopped the further progress of our right, and for a short time the only approach against the enemy was swept by our batteries in the valley. When this difficulty was removed, the two brigades marched, under a heavy fire, from the enemy's artillery, against the battery on their left, the front covered by skirmishers from the fifteenth Alabama, the brigade advancing in echelon of regiments. The enemy hastily abandoned the field, leaving their wounded, several loaded ammunition wagons, and a piece of artillery. As it was too late to distinguish friend from foe, and shouting was heard to my left, (in rear of line of battle,) I halted to communicate with the centre, now advancing under General Early, in a direction to intersect my line of march. While waiting, I received orders to join the left wing, under the Major General in person. Night stopped the pursuit, and next morning I was remanded to Slaughter's Mountain. An armistice having been agreed on to bury the dead, General Early returned to the field with a detachment from his brigade, and while there, secured six wagon loads of arms, besides burying nearly one

hundred dead left by the other divisions of the army, and which would not have been buried but for his energy. General Early, though on duty since the battle of Malvern Hill, was still so enfeebled from the effects of a wound received at Williamsburg, as to be unable to mount his horse without assistance. I beg to call the attention of the Major General commanding to the gallant and effective service rendered by General Early in repulsing repeated attacks of the enemy, and contributing largely in driving him from the field. I beg leave to recommend him for promotion, and also heartily endorse his recommendation for the promotion of Colonel Walker, of the thirteenth Virginia, to the rank of Brigadier General. My staff present were, Lieutenant Colonel J. M. Jones and Captain G. Campbell Brown, adjutant general department, Lieutenant T. T. Turner, aid-de-camp, and Lieutenant Richardson, engineer corps. These officers were, as usual, active and efficient in the performance of their duties. Lieutenant Elliott Johnson, aid-de-camp to Brigadier General Garnett, volunteered on my staff, for the battle, and here, as well as afterwards, at Bristoe, profited largely by his activity, coolness and intelligence. This officer was severely wounded at Sharpsburg. His valuable and long services to the Confederacy, much of the time without rank, entitle him to promotion. I enclose herewith reports from Captain D'Aquin's Louisiana battery, Major Courtay, chief of artillery, Colonel Walker, thirteenth Virginia, Colonel Forno, commanding Hays' Brigade, (Louisiana,) General Trimble and General Early. My losses were eight wounded in the artillery.

	KILLED.	WOUNDED.
Early's Brigade,	16	145
Trimble's "	1	17
Forno's (Hays') Brigade,	0	8
<hr/> Total,	<hr/> 17	<hr/> 178

Respectfully,  
R. S. EWELL, *Commanding.*

P. S. I enclose a drawing of the field of battle, by Lieutenant Richardson, engineer corps, showing movements of the division.

## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL A. P. HILL.

HEADQUARTERS LIGHT DIVISION,  
Camp Gregg, March 8, 1863. }

Lieutenant Colonel C. J. FAULKNER, A. A. G.:

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the light division, under my command, at the battle of Cedar Run:

On the night of the 7th August, 1862, my division, to which had been added the Louisiana brigade of Colonel Stafford, encamped around Orange Court-House. That night orders were received by me, from Major General Jackson, to move at dawn in the morning, and in the following order, viz: Ewell's Hill's and Jackson's divisions.

At the appointed time, I was ready, with the head of my leading brigade resting near the street down which I understood Ewell was to pass, and ready to take my appointed place in the column of march. A little after sunrise, a division commenced passing, which I supposed to be Ewell's. One or two brigades having passed, I then recognized it to be Jackson's, and learned that Ewell had taken another route by Liberty Mills. Of this no intimation had been given me. Not desiring to separate the brigades of the division, I awaited its passing and fell in, in rear of it. Jackson's division was followed by quite a train of wagons, and such I understood to be General Jackson's order, and nothing had been said about the trains in the order of march. My column progressed so slowly that I rode on to the river to see the cause of the delay. I there found that a portion of Jackson's division had not crossed, and all were delayed by the passing of Ewell's troops and trains, his road joining ours at this point. I sent word to General Jackson that the trains were delaying the march of the troops very much, and to know if it was his order that the trains were to follow in rear of each division. Between four and five o'clock, the wagons of Ewell still passing, and a portion of Jackson's division still not having crossed the river, I received an order from General Jackson, to go back to Orange Court House and encamp for the night. The head of my column having only made about a mile, I bivouacked the brigades where they were. That night, I sent a note to General Jackson, at Garnett's house, that it would be impossible for me to get along the next day with my artillery, unless the road was cleared of the trains; that, familiar with the country, if he would permit, I could take my division by a short road, by the ford at Holliday's Mill, and join him at any point he might designate. The reply I received was, that the trains had been ordered from the road, and to move immediately by the route first designated, as it was his intention to be in Culpeper Court House that night. Moving before daylight, Lawton's, Talliaferro's and other brigades were overhauled just as they were in motion. The enemy's cavalry having made some demonstrations on our left, Gregg was or-

dered to remain at the ford and protect the crossing of the trains, and as a guard on the march. My order of march was, Thomas, Branch, Archer, Pender, Stafford and Field. Arriving within about six miles of Culpeper Court-House, the heavy firing in front gave notice that the battle had commenced. I was then directed by General Jackson to send a brigade to the support of Taliaferro, who was in line of battle on the right of the main road. Thomas was sent on this duty, and formed his line immediately in rear of Taliaferro's. Lieutenant Colonel Walker placed Pegram's and Fleet's batteries in eligible positions in front of Early's brigade, (General Taliaferro's right;) Branch, Archer and Pender, as they came up, were successively formed on the left of the road. Winder's brigade, immediately in front of Branch, being hard pressed, broke, and many fugitives came back. Without waiting for the formation of the entire line, Branch was immediately ordered forward, and passing through the broken brigade, received the enemy's fire, promptly returned it, checked the pursuit, and in turn drove them back, and relieved Taliaferro's flank. The enemy, driven across an open field, had rallied in a wood skirting it. Branch was engaging when Archer came up, and, with Pender on the left, the enemy were charged across this field, the brigade of Archer being subjected to a very heavy fire. General Thomas, on the right, had been ordered by General Jackson to the right to support Early's brigade. Quite a large portion of both Early's and Taliaferro's brigades had been thrown into confusion, some of the regiments standing firm, the thirteenth Virginia, twenty-first Virginia and twelfth Georgia. Thomas formed his line of battle along a fence bordering a corn-field, through which the enemy were advancing. After a short contest here, the enemy were hurled back. Pegram's and Fleet's batteries, the latter under command of Lieutenant Hardy, did heavy execution this day, and drove back several attempts to capture their guns. The fourteenth Georgia, under the gallant Colonel Folsom, having become separated from the rest of the brigade, by our fugitives, charged the advancing enemy, and with brilliant success. The enemy had now been driven from every part of the field, but made an attempt to retrieve his fortunes by a cavalry charge. Their squadrons, advancing across an open field in front of Branch, exposed their flank to him, and, encountering a deadly fire from the fourteenth Georgia and thirteenth Virginia, had many saddles emptied, and fled in utter disorder. Much credit is due Thomas' brigade for the admirable manner in which they acted, under very discouraging circumstances.

It was now dark, and the field had been won. I was directed to follow the enemy. Colonel Stafford and General Field being now up, Stafford's brigade was put in advance, and Field, with Pegram's battery next. The woods in our front having first been shelled for some minutes by all my batteries, Stafford advanced, feeling his way cautiously, skirmishing and taking prisoners. Passing through the woods, he came upon the enemy in force. By direction of General Jackson, Pegram occupied a little knoll upon the margin of the field and opened fire. Field was thrown into line along the edge of the woods bordering the field, and a little in rear of Pegram. Very soon a concen-

tric fire from three batteries, at short range, was opened on Pegram, and his loss in men and horses was so great that he was soon silenced. No further attempt was made to advance. My brigade bivouacked upon the ground, and next day were withdrawn a short distance back, and the dead buried.

Major J. G. Field and Capt. F. T. Hill, of my staff, were wounded, the former severely.

My loss was as follows:

	<i>Killed.</i>	<i>Wounded.</i>
Colonels,	0	1
Lieut. Colonels	0	3
Majors,	0	3
Captains,	1	9
Lieutenants,	3	16
Privates,	45	113
	—	—
	49	145—Total, 194

Very respectfully,

A. P. HILL.

On the above report was the following endorsement:

HEADQUARTERS 2D CORPS, A. N. V., March 19, 1863.

Respectfully forwarded. The reason assigned by General Hill for his division not being next to Ewell's on the day preceding the battle of Cedar Run, renders it proper that the facts of the case should be stated. For the purpose of attacking the enemy at or near Culpeper Court-House, I directed Generals Ewell and Hill to leave their encampment on the 7th, and, at dawn on the following morning, to resume the march, and move via Barnett's ford. The positions of the two divisions were such that I did not require General Hill's division to follow General Ewell's on the 7th, but I did expect it to do so on the 8th; and such would have been the case, had General Hill carried out the instructions which I gave him before he left his encampment on the 7th, to move at dawn on the morning of the 8th. Ewell moved early in the morning, and though he did not cross at Barnett's ford, yet he passed near that point in coming into the road upon which the troops were to move. I passed the night probably three-quarters of a mile from the centre of the village of Orange Court-House.

After sunrise next morning, I observed some of General Hill's troops still where they had bivouacked, and such was my concern at their not having moved, that I ordered my horse and rode to Orange Court House, where I found General Hill, but did not see any of his troops with him. I spoke to him about his not having moved, and understood him to say that he was waiting for Jackson's division to pass. The sun was then probably over an hour high. The advance of Jackson's division had reached the town and halted. Desiring to

avoid delay, I directed my A. A. General, Major E. F. Paxton, to order Jackson's division forward. Upon reaching Barnett's ford, on the Rapidan, I found Ewell's division moving by there. Had General Hill moved at dawn, I could, had I deemed it necessary, have halted Ewell's train before it reached the road upon which General Hill was to move, and thus have brought the division of General H. immediately in rear of that of General Ewell. As General H. says that he was to move at dawn and follow Ewell, he should have expected Ewell to be in front, and not in rear of him at that time. If he believed that the division for which he was waiting to pass was Ewell's, he could easily have sent some one and ascertained the fact. But though the better part of two hours had elapsed since the time fixed for marching, yet it does not appear that he had taken any steps to ascertain ; but appears to have taken it for granted that the division which should have been in advance of him, was in rear. No order was sent by me to General Hill to go back to Orange Court-House and encamp for the night ; on the contrary, I sent a verbal order to him, by my chief of artillery, Colonel Crutchfield, urging him forward, and also sent a written order to the same effect by a courier.

T. J. JACKSON, *Lieutenant General.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL TALIAFERRO.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, VALLEY ARMY, }  
Camp near Liberty Mills, Va., August 13, 1862. }

To Captain A. S. PENDLETON, *A. A. G.* :

CAPTAIN : By direction of the Major General commanding, I have the honor to report the operations of my command on the 9th instant, during the engagement near Cedar Run :

On the morning of the 9th, the first, second and third brigades of this division, under Brigadier General C. S. Winder, first brigade, (the fourth having been detailed to protect the trains,) marched from the encampment, near Barnett's ford of the Rapidan river, upon the turnpike road leading in the direction of Culpeper, the division of Major General Ewell having preceeded it the morning previous. After crossing the Robertson river, and proceeding some three miles, we overtook the division of General Ewell, and discovered the enemy in front, when our troops were halted to make dispositions to attack them. This division was ordered to attack the enemy's right, whilst the division of General Ewell was ordered to attack him upon the left.

On my riding to the front, I perceived the enemy's cavalry drawn up on the range of hills near Cedar Run, with a line of videttes in front, whilst the fall of the hills in rear and the woods beyond evidently concealed their batteries and infantry. A corn-field in front of this position also concealed the movements of the enemy, and the undulation of the country made reconnoisances very difficult. The field batteries of General Ewell were now shelling the enemy, when General Winder ordered the division forward along the turnpike to a point at which the woods on the right of the road terminated. Beyond this point, the woods on the left extended to a wheat field, beyond which a dense wood again appeared. On the right of the road from the point of termination of the woods, an extensive bare field stretched to the left to a considerable distance and to the front to a cornfield. A brigade, under General Early, protected by the fall of the hills, occupied the right of this field in line of battle directly fronting the general line of the enemy, (as far as we could make it out,) General Winder now ordered the second brigade, under Lieutenant Colonel Garnett, forty-eighth Virginia, to move forward to the left, under cover of the woods, to the wheat field and to extend back to the left along the skirt of the woods. He then ordered some pieces of artillery, under the general charge of Major Snowden Andrews, chief of artillery for the division, to the point where the bare field commenced, and ordered the third brigade, under my command, to move along up parallel to the road in rear of the batteries, and under cover of the wood, until the head of the column rested near the rear of the second brigade. The brigade was then faced to the road. The first brigade, Colonel C. F. Ronald, fourth Virginia regiment, commanding, was ordered, as I was informed, to move up as a reserve.

Whilst these dispositions were being made, the troops were subjected to a heavy discharge of shell and shot from the enemy's artillery, thrown mostly at random into the woods. The effect of our batteries from the point of woods and from a position subsequently taken in the open field to the right, was very great, to a great extent silencing the enemy's guns. After the pieces had been placed in battery, at the corner of the woods, and had opened some fifteen minutes upon the enemy, I returned to my brigade, a short distance back in the woods and out of sight of the enemy, to await General Winder's orders. I left this brave, generous and accomplished officer at this point, and was informed a short time afterwards that he had been struck by a shell and mortally wounded. I now assumed command of the division, under the disadvantage of being ignorant of the plans of the General, except as far as I could form an opinion from my observation of the dispositions made. I at once rode to the front to acquaint myself with the position of the second brigade, and reconnoitre the enemy's position from the field in front of the first Virginia battalion of that brigade. I could discover no evidences of the enemy in front; but could discover them in force on the right of that position in the corn-field, somewhat concealed from the view of our troops by the undulations of the country. I now returned to the position occupied by our batteries, when I was overtaken by an officer who reported that the enemy were showing themselves in front of the position I had just left, and were advancing. I at once ordered the tenth Virginia regiment to be detached from the third brigade and sent forward to reinforce the first Virginia battalion, and sent an order to Colonel Ronald to move his brigade (the first) rapidly to the support of the second brigade. I now perceived the enemy advancing through the corn-field, and directed Colonel Garnett to throw his right forward and drive them back, and ordered Colonel Taliaferro to move his brigade into the open field to the right, and attack and drive back the enemy in front. The twenty-first Virginia regiment, second brigade, Lieutenant Colonel Cunningham, poured a destructive fire upon the enemy, and exhibited a degree of heroic valor rarely ever witnessed.

The third brigade advanced in fine style, and the enemy gave way before the severity of its fire. At this moment I discovered that, owing to the fact that the first brigade had not been moved sufficiently near originally, or that the order had not reached Colonel Ronald in time, the enemy had attacked the left wing of the second brigade and turned it, and that it was falling back in some disorder. This movement exposed, also, the left flank of the third brigade, and caused it to fall back; but it was soon afterwards brought back to its original position. At this critical moment, the first brigade moved up, and with General Branch's brigade, of General Hill's division, encountered the enemy, confused by their severe conflict with the second brigade, and drove them back with terrible slaughter. The third brigade now advanced to the brow of the hill overlooking the corn-field, and the second brigade to the edge of the woods, and drove the enemy in front of them, from their positions, in confusion. To cover his retreat, the enemy's cavalry charged the third brigade; but they were met by

such a storm of missiles that the whole column was turned, wheeled to the right and before it could be wheeled off to the rear was forced to run the gauntlet of the other brigades, and scattered in every direction with heavy loss.

This was the last effort of the enemy to make a stand; they retreated and our troops pursued them, capturing a number of prisoners. This division crossed the corn-field diagonally towards the railroad.

Brigadier General Prince, United States army, was made a prisoner and surrendered to me as we were crossing this field, and his command, which was on our right, had been, I think, principally engaged with Brigadier General Early's brigade, fled upon our approach with scarcely any opposition. We continued to push forward until we had driven the enemy some three miles, and until the darkness rendered it impossible to distinguish our troops from those of the enemy. After having made report of my position to the commanding General, I was ordered to permit the troops to rest for the night, which was done in advance of the field of battle. From my own personal observation and the reports of officers, it affords me pleasure to bear renewed testimony to the efficiency and gallantry of this veteran division.

The first brigade fully sustained its ancient reputation. I captured a number of prisoners, and four stands of colors. Colonel Ronald, who ably and gallantly commanded it, speaks in the highest terms of the support he received from the courage and zeal displayed by his officers and men. He particularly mentions Major Williams, fifth Virginia regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Lawson Botts, second Virginia regiment; Lieutenant Colonel R. D. Gardner, fourth Virginia regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Edward D. Lee, thirty-third Virginia regiment; Captain Charles L. Haynes, twenty-seventh Virginia regiment; Captains Carpenter and Poague, commanding batteries; Captain John H. Fulton, fourth Virginia; Major Holliday, thirty-third Virginia, and Lieutenant Garnett, of General Winder's staff.

The second brigade, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Garnett, who exhibited a rare skill and courage, refusing to leave the field, although severely wounded, until the close of the fight, although at one time overwhelmed by superior numbers, pressing and turning their left flank, yet renewed the fight with determination and bravery. The conflict of this command with the enemy was most severe. The bayonet was freely used, and a hand to hand fight, with superior numbers, ensued before the right of the brigade fell back. Colonel Garnett makes special mention of Lieutenant Colonel Cunningham, who, with most heroic gallantry, led the twenty-first Virginia, and fell at their head; of Major Layne, of the forty-second Virginia, who was mortally wounded; of Major Seddon, commanding first Virginia battalion; Captain Hannum, of the forty-eighth Virginia; Captain Dyerle, forty-eighth, mortally wounded; Captain Wilson, A. A. G.; Lieutenant Dabney, A. D. C., and Lieutenant White, A. D. C.

The third brigade, Colonel A. G. Taliaferro, twenty-third Virginia, commanding, was conducted into action by that officer with the intrepidity and courage which has heretofore distinguished him. His command was subjected to a terrific fire, which it gallantly withstood, and

to a charge of cavalry which it instantly repulsed, and when the left flank, for a time, gave way under an overwhelming force, the right, and particularly the twenty-third Virginia regiment, which deserves special mention for its firmness and admirable conduct in the engagement, remained unbroken. Colonel Taliaferro particularly mentions Major Stover, commanding tenth Virginia regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Curtis, commanding twenty-third Virginia, who fell mortally wounded; Major Walton, twenty third Virginia; Colonel T. C. Williams, of the thirty-seventh Virginia, who was wounded; Major Wood, thirty-seventh Virginia; Lieutenant Colonel Jackson, of the forty-seventh Alabama regiment; Colonel Sheffield, of the forty-eighth Alabama regiment, who was severely wounded; Major Aldrich, forty-eighth Alabama regiment, severely wounded; and of his A. A. G., Lieutenant Colonel F. Coleman. The batteries of the division, engaged in the action, were those of Captains Carpenter, Poague and Caskie. The officers and men of these batteries behaved well. Captain Caskie was wounded. Captain Wooding's battery was not engaged; he himself acted for a time with the General commanding.

I have the honor to enclose herewith the reports of brigade, regimental and battery commanders, to which the Major General is referred for more minute details, and a list of killed and wounded of the division. No one can estimate the loss this brigade and this division of the army has sustained in the early death of Brigadier General Winder. He was warmly beloved by all who knew him as a man, and had the full confidence of his command as a soldier. I beg leave in conclusion to allude to the gallantry of Major Snowden Andrews, chief of artillery who was severely, and I fear mortally, wounded; to that of my adjutant general, Captain Wm. B. Pendleton, who was severely wounded, loosing his leg; of Lieutenant Meade, A. D. C.; Major Taliaferro, volunteer aid-de-camp, who rendered me most efficient and important service, and to speak particularly of the gallant conduct of my orderly, a youth of sixteen, private Clinton Depriest, company H, twenty-third Virginia regiment. It affords me pleasure to mention the efficient service, in their department, of the medical officers of the command. I beg to refer especially to Surgeon Coleman, second brigade; Surgeon Daily, third brigade, and Surgeon Black, first brigade.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

WM. B. TALIAFERRO,

*Brigadier General, commanding First Division, V. A.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL FIELD.

HEADQ'RS FIRST BRIGADE, LIGHT DIVISION, }  
August 13, 1862. }

Major R. C. MORGAN,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that my brigade marched from Orange Court-House early on the morning of the 9th instant, bringing up the rear of the whole army. About two or three o'clock, cannonading was heard, and I endeavored to push forward rapidly; but on account of detentions in the brigades in my front, I did not reach the scene of action until sunset, when the firing was nearly over.

Forming in line of battle on the field, I was directed by General Hill to push forward on the Culpeper Court-House road and press the retreating foe. After moving about a mile and a half to the front, the enemy was found in position on the left of the road. Pegram's battery, of my brigade, was directed by General Jackson to open with shell and canister, whilst I was ordered by General Hill, who came up at that moment, to take position with the infantry, a little to the left front, as support. Pegram's battery, of four guns only, was soon replied to by three batteries of the enemy. This gallant officer maintained this unequal contest for an hour, and until his guns were silenced by his losses in men. I remained in this position until next morning, when I was withdrawn and placed on picket in a wood on my left rear, being retired from that point late in the evening. It is proper to observe that several prisoners were captured by my brigade during that night. I have taken occasion before to speak of the distinguished services of Pegram's battery. It is sufficient to say now that it fully sustained the reputation made on other fields. The battery sustained a heavy loss in the death of the brave and accomplished Lieutenant Mercer Featherston.

A list of the killed, wounded and missing, is herewith enclosed.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES L. FIELD,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

REPORT OF COLONEL FORNO OF EIGHTH BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS HAYS' BRIGADE,  
August 18, 1862. {

Captain G. CAMPBELL BROWN,  
*A. A. General, Third Division:*

SIR: I have the honor to report the part taken by Hays' brigade, now under my command, during the battle of the 9th instant, at Cedar Run. Although not actively engaged, the brigade being held in reserve by General Trimble's command, were under fire and in range of the enemy's shell, and suffered considerably. A list of the casualties accompanies this report.

Very respectfully, yours,

H. FORNO,  
*Colonel 5th La., commanding Brigade.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ARCHER.

HEADQUARTERS ARCHER'S BRIGADE,  
General A. P. Hill's Light Division, August 14, 1862. }

To Major R. C. MORGAN,

*A. A. General, A. P. Hill's Division:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that, early on the morning of the 9th instant, I marched with my brigade, about twelve hundred strong, constituting a part of Major General Hill's division, from Orange Court-House toward the battle-field. On arriving near the point where General Jackson's division was already engaged, I proceeded to form line of battle in the woods, to the left of Branch's brigade, which completed its formation and advanced before my line was half formed. Supposing that I would be wanted in front immediately, I moved forward with the first Tennessee and nineteenth Georgia regiments, fifth Alabama battalion and seventh Tennessee in line, leaving the fourteenth Tennessee, which was in rear, to come up into line and overtake the brigade as it best could. I advanced several hundred yards in this manner, obliquing towards the right, in order to get near the left of Branch's brigade, when I overtook its left regiment, which had become separated from its main body. In passing to the front of this regiment my line became somewhat broken, and I halted a few minutes for it to reform.

During the time thus employed, Colonel Forbes' fourteenth Tennessee regiment came up into line, and I rode to the road, about fifty yards on my right, to ascertain whether they were our or the enemy's troops firing there. I found it was Branch's brigade, in the open field, on the right of the road, and in a line even with that of my own, halted, and firing at an enemy in front.

I rapidly returned to my brigade to move it forward, when I met Captain Taylor, with orders from General Hill to advance. Immediately after, on reaching the edge of the wood, we encountered the long-range fire of the enemy, posted in the margin of another wood, beyond a wheat-field. My brigade halted here, and commenced a rapid fire, which it was several minutes before I could arrest and move the brigade forward, across the open field. In crossing this field I was exposed to a heavy fire from the enemy, who, from their position in the wood, were comparatively safe. My loss here was nineteen killed and one hundred and sixteen wounded.

After entering the wood, and in passing through it, my two left regiments met, and became to some extent mingled with, the right of General Pender's brigade, which was sweeping through from the left, obliquely across my course. From this point, by agreement between us, General Pender and I commanded the two brigades together, without regard to the proper brigades to which the regiments belonged, he taking the right and I the left.

I did not again meet with any opposition, but took a number of prisoners, and continued the pursuit until night.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. L. ARCHER,  
*Brigadier General.*

P. S.—I beg to refer to the list of killed and wounded sent in yesterday.

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL TRIMBLE.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH BRIGADE, {  
August 14, 1862. }

Major General R. S. EWELL,  
*Commanding Third Division:*

GENERAL: In compliance with your request, I submit a statement of the operations of the seventh brigade on the 9th instant, in the battle of Slaughter's Mountain, (Cedar Run)

On the morning of the 9th, being in view of the enemy's cavalry, I was directed to approach under cover, and occupy a pine thicket, about three-quarters of a mile from the enemy's picket. This was done successfully, undiscovered by the enemy, and a company ordered to support a battery placed on our right, which opened and drove back the cavalry scouts, who reformed again and returned to their first position, after the artillery ceased firing. About two o'clock, I was ordered to advance through the woods on our right along the slope of Slaughter's Mountain, and occupy a favorable position. About three o'clock, the brigade reached the northwest termination of the mountain, in an open space, elevated about two hundred feet above the valley below, and distant from the position of the enemy's batteries about a mile and a quarter, where we remained concealed from view. Having sent for you to examine this point, you decided to drag up Latimer's battery, of my brigade, and place it in position, which was done promptly about half-past three, P. M., and fire opened with effect on the enemy's batteries, which drew their fire from the front, upon us. At five, P. M., we first heard our musketry across the valley, on our left, (General Early's advance.) About five, some batteries were advanced within half a mile of the enemy in our front, and opened a brisk fire. Latimer's battery, admirably served, drew, throughout the action, the attention of the enemy's chief batteries, and thus aided materially in deciding the result of the day. At five, P. M., the fifteenth Alabama regiment was sent out as skirmishers on the right, with orders to advance on the enemy's flank. On seeing this movement, a battery was turned on them for the rest of the day. About sunset, the action appearing to be general in front, by your orders, the twenty-first Georgia and twenty-first North Carolina regiments, were ordered to advance, and gained the clump of woods in the valley, four hundred yards from the battery on the Federal left, followed by the fifteenth Alabama. I here determined to charge the battery, but Latimer's shot and shell directed against it, was falling thick in the open space which we had to pass, and I sent back Lieut. McKim to direct him to cease his fire on this battery, that we might charge it. While Lieut. McKim was gone, I sent two companies of skirmishers up the road, who deployed to the right along a fence and opened fire on the battery. Soon after which, the brigade advanced to capture it; but found, on reaching the top of the hill, that the guns

had been moved off a few minutes before. It is to be regretted that the short delay, in making the charge, caused by our own fire, enabled the enemy to get off his guns. The battery and troops in its support were, however, driven off by the advance of the brigade, and thus the left of the Federal forces completely turned. At dark, we had possession of the ground occupied by the Federal left, and soon after took possession of and removed some ambulances and ammunition wagons, abandoned by the enemy, the remainder of which were removed the next day. The seventh brigade, with the army, followed the enemy one mile or more from the field, and bivouacked for the night on their former camp ground. Subjoined is a list of the killed and wounded. The small loss sustained by the brigade was in consequence of the positions selected throughout the day, which screened the men the most of the time from the view of the enemy, even while advancing upon their battery on their left. Latimer's battery was also protected from loss, under a several hours' incessant fire from three batteries of the enemy, by the judicious position in which it was placed by you, preventing, entirely, casualties from the enemy's shot or from the effects of ricochet shot.

Respectfully,

J. R. TRIMBLE.

*Brigadier General.*

*Killed, Wounded, and Missing.*

	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
Fifteenth Alabama regiment,	1	7	8
Twenty-first Georgia regiment,		3	3
Twenty-first North Carolina regiment,		2	2
Courtney battery,		5	5
Grand total,	1	17	18

The only officers included in the above are the following: Third Lieutenant Jno. F. Irvine, company I, twenty-first Georgia, wounded; First Lieutenant R. H. Vaughan, Courtney artillery, wounded.

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL BRANCH.

HEADQ'RS BRANCH'S BRIGADE, A. P. HILL'S DIVISION, }  
August 18, 1862. }

Major R. C. MORGAN,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

SIR: I have the honor to report that, on Saturday, 9th August, whilst on the march towards Culpeper Court-House, I was ordered to halt my brigade and form it in line of battle on the left of, and at right angles to, the road. The formation was scarcely completed before I was ordered to advance in line through the woods and thick undergrowth, a heavy musketry fire being heard not far from my front. I had proceeded about one hundred yards when I commenced meeting the men of a brigade which had preceded me, retreating in great disorder, and closely pursued by the enemy. Opening ranks to permit the fugitives to pass, and pressing forward in unbroken line, my brigade met the enemy, who had already turned the flank of General Taliaferro's brigade, which was on the right of the road. Not in the least shaken by the panic cries of the fugitives, and without halting, my regiment poured volley after volley into the enemy, who broke and fled precipitately through the woods and across the field. On reaching the edge of the field, I discovered the enemy in force on the opposite side, and halting my brigade in an eligible position, opened fire along the whole line. For a time, the enemy stood their ground, but we were within good range across an open field, and the execution we were doing, (clearly perceptible to the eye,) compelled them to commence breaking. Now it was that their cavalry attempted to charge upon General Taliaferro's brigade, which had partially rallied, after I had cleared their flank. The cavalry moved diagonally across my front, presenting to me their flank. The combined fire of Taliaferro's brigade in front, and mine in flank, broke up the column and sent it flying to the rear. My brigade immediately moved forward in pursuit of the retreating enemy, and whilst I was hesitating in the field, in doubt what direction I should take, Major General Jackson came up, and, by his order, I changed front so as to incline to the right, and pushed on to a point some distance in advance of the battle-field, at which he had ordered me to halt.

The battle having terminated in a complete rout of the enemy, my men slept on the ground they had so bravely won.

My officers and men behaved finely, and I refrain from discriminations. Such was their steadiness, that I was able to preserve my line of battle, unbroken, throughout the day.

Captain J. T. Hawks and Lieutenant J. A. Bryan, of my staff, were with me, and conducted themselves gallantly.

Your obedient servant,

L O'B. BRANCH,

*Brigadier General.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL PENDER.

HEADQ'R'S SIXTH BRIGADE, LIGHT DIVISION, }  
August, 1862. }

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that, in obedience to your orders, I formed my brigade on the left of General Archer's, on the left of the road going from Cedar Run to Culpeper, in the battle of the 9th instant. As he had moved forward before my line was complete, and as I had to move through thick woods, I found myself some distance to his left on coming into a field, and consequently flanked to the right; but on receiving a request to go to the support of troops in front, which were being flanked on the left, faced about and moved to the left until I had reached the wood on the extreme left of our position, and then I moved to the front. This manoeuvring placed my line obliquely to that of General Archer's, and as we moved forward, came together again, and from this time co-operated. However, before we had joined our troops, I met the enemy, repulsing him with heavy loss in almost the first round. He made but slight resistance again during the evening. I thought it prudent, during my advance, to detach the twenty-second North Carolina to operate well on my left, as it looked probable that I might be flanked in that direction. This turned out to be timely, for, as we advanced into the field, after dusk, a body of cavalry was seen on the left; but it soon scampered off as this regiment was coming up in its rear and our advance was cutting it off. General Archer and myself advanced well to the front, and halted until we could feel our way, with skirmishers, in the wood on the opposite side of the run. At this time we had gotten to the right of the wood. Here we received orders to halt and remain until late, when we were ordered to the road to follow in the pursuit.

My loss in killed was only two; in wounded, eleven, and in missing, two—making a total of fifteen.

The officers and men behaved well. Lieutenant Colonel Gray and Major Cole, twenty second, and Captain Ashford, thirty-eighth, handled their men skillfully, showing great coolness.

Captain Ashe, my assistant adjutant general, deserves notice for his conduct, being found at every point almost at the same time, directing the men. Lieutenant Young, my aid-de-camp, acted with his usual efficiency. Language cannot express the appreciation I have for his services in action.

Very respectfully,  
W. D. PENDER.

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL EARLY.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, }  
August 14, 1862. }

Captain G. C. BROWN,

*Assistant Adjutant General, Third Division:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of my brigade in the battle on Cedar creek, near Slaughter's mountain, in Culpeper, on Saturday, the 9th instant:

Early on the morning of that day, I was ordered by Major General Ewell to move forward to the cavalry camp of General Robertson, picketing the road at suitable points, to the right and left, to prevent surprise by the enemy's cavalry on our flanks, and the forty-fourth Virginia regiment and six companies of the fifty second Virginia regiment were detached for that purpose. With the balance of the brigade I reached General Robertson's headquarters. After some time spent in observing the enemy's cavalry in our front, my brigade, by direction of General Ewell, was advanced on the road towards Culpeper Court-House, to a school house, at the intersection of a road from Madison Court-House with the road to Culpeper Court-House, and was placed in the woods by the side of the road, the thirteenth Virginia regiment being extended to the left, behind the school-house, so as to command the road from Madison Court-House; the fifty-eighth Virginia regiment being placed in a clump of pines, to the right of the Culpeper road, so as to command the fields to the right; and the rest of the brigade along the edge of the woods, to the left of the latter road, between the thirteenth and fifty-eighth regiments. While this operation was going on, two pieces of Captain Johnson's battery, under Lieutenant Terry, which had been carried to the right, near the foot of the mountain, opened on the enemy's cavalry, as did some pieces in front of General Robertson's headquarters, and were responded to by some pieces of the enemy posted in rear of their cavalry, towards Culpeper Court-House; but this firing lasted only for a few minutes, and the enemy's cavalry, which had at first moved back, soon returned to its former position. After I had remained near the school-house something less than an hour, Captain A. S. Pendleton, of General Jackson's staff, came to me and informed me that General Jackson had ordered an advance; that General Trimble would advance on the right, over the side of the mountain, (Slaughter's,) supported by the Louisiana brigade of General Ewell's division, and that I would advance from the position I then occupied, and be supported by General Winder, with three brigades of General Jackson's own division, and he directed me to advance as soon as I received a message from General Winder that he was in position to support me.

Whilst waiting for the message from General Winder, I reconnoitered the ground in front, and the position of the enemy's cavalry,

which was in the fields of Mrs. Crittenden's farm, to the left of the Culpeper road, deployed as skirmishers, supported by about a squadron in reserve. My command was concealed from the cavalry, and I determined to advance upon it, if possible, so as not to be seen until within a short distance of it, and I discovered a way which I could, in all probability, do so. On riding back to the school-house, I found a courier from General Winder, with the information that he was ready. I then commenced my movement, being about two o'clock, P. M., and made a detour to the left, passing through the edge of a wood and behind a hill, until I reached the place where I proposed to form my line of battle. In making the advance from this position, I found it necessary to march the greater portion of the brigade in line across a corner of woods, through which the Culpeper road leads, so as to get in reach of the cavalry. I sent forward the thirteenth Virginia regiment, under Colonel James A. Walker, deployed as skirmishers, a short distance into the woods, behind which I desired to form line of battle, and as soon as the skirmishers had advanced the required distance, the brigade was formed in a meadow, on the north of a branch of Cedar creek, in an oblique direction to the Culpeper road and to the left of it. While the line was forming, a few shots were heard on the left of the skirmishers, which proved to have been fired on a body of cavalry, which immediately gave way. As soon as the line was formed, I directed the skirmishers to advance, taking care to bear to the right, so as to cross the road and come into the fields beyond, in order to form upon the brigade, and ordered the brigade forward, sending the twelfth Georgia regiment, which was on the right, by flank, to form behind a ridge, beyond which was the enemy's cavalry. The brigade moved forward, through the woods, in handsome style, until it came up with the twelfth Georgia, when the whole advanced until it came in sight of the enemy's cavalry. About this time Colonel Walker's skirmishers commenced firing, as did the regiments on the right, and the cavalry scampered off. The brigade continued to move forward, swinging around the corner of the woods, and coming out into the open field in line of battle. It had by this time got to the right of the Culpeper road, and moved in pursuit of the enemy's cavalry through the fields, in a direction parallel to the road, until it came to a farm road, running from Mrs. Crittenden's house, on the right, perpendicularly to the Culpeper road. Here it was halted for a few minutes behind a fence running along the farm road, and the thirteenth regiment was drawn in and formed on the left. The fence was then pulled down, and the brigade moved forward in line to the crest of a hill, which commanded a view in front of what afterwards proved to be the battle-field. As soon as the brigade reached the crest of this hill three batteries opened on it, and a large body of cavalry was discovered in a wheat-field in front, to the left. I ordered the men to retire a few steps and lay down, so as to avoid the effects of the enemy's artillery.

The seventh and eighth brigades were then some distance to the right, on the side of the mountain, and General Winder's command was about three-quarters of a mile to the rear. The hill sloped down

in front, and, farther on, was a corn-field, running back to the crest of the next hill, along and behind which was posted the enemy's batteries, and it was evident that there was a depression behind this hill, in which large bodies of infantry might be concealed. There were woods also on a hill in the rear of the wheat-field, in and behind which infantry might be placed under cover, and to the left was a wood through which my flank might be turned.

The opening of the batteries and the halting of the cavalry in its flight convinced me that the enemy intended to make a stand here, and that he was in force. The hill upon which I was, being a commanding one, from which the enemy's movements might be observed, and though my left was exposed, being a strong position in itself, if the woods on my left could be occupied, I determined to hold it, and sent my aid, Lieutenant S. H. Early, back to General Winder for reinforcements, with directions to come along the Culpeper road, as that was clear. My left at this time rested on the Culpeper road, where it runs between the field in which I was and the woods to the left. General Winder was met with the head of his column just crossing the branch of Cedar creek, half a mile in my rear.

A short time after Lieutenant Early was sent to General Winder, I sent Major A. L. Pitzer, a volunteer aid, to ask that some pieces of artillery should be sent up. Before this request could be complied with by General Winder, Captain Brown, of the Chesapeake artillery, with one piece, and Captain Dement, with three pieces, came up through the fields in rear, in a gallop, and were posted, by my direction, a little in advance of my right, near a clump of cedars, where they had good cover for their horses and caissons and occupied a commanding position. They very soon opened on the enemy and were followed in a short time by some pieces from General Winder's command from the corner of the field where the road from Mrs. Crittenden's crosses the Culpeper road. About this time, the pieces with the seventh and eighth brigades opened fire from the mountain, and a very brisk cannonade was kept up for some time, perhaps for two hours or more. The shells from the enemy's pieces bursted over and around my men constantly, doing some damage occasionally, but not a great deal. I observed that the fire from our own guns was having considerable effect, and I saw one of the enemy's batteries compelled to change its position. In the early part of the cannonading, I sent an aid to tell General Winder that the enemy's batteries might be attacked with advantage by the left; but, in a short time afterwards, movements were observed in front that induced the belief that the enemy were sending infantry to our left, and notice of this was sent to General Winder, with the caution to be on the look out; but just before my aid reached the place where General Winder was, this gallant officer received a mortal wound from a shell, and the information was communicated to General Jackson in person, he having arrived on the ground. Not long afterwards a line of skirmishers from the enemy was seen advancing across the corn-field in front, and several regiments in rear supporting them. A body of infantry also commenced moving up towards my right, which rested near the clump of

cedars, where the guns of Brown and Dement were posted. The hill there falls off rather abruptly to the right and as infantry could have come up under cover of the hill very near to me, I sent to General Jackson for a brigade to support my right, which was promised. The enemy's skirmishers had halted in the edge of the corn-field nearest us, as had the regiments which supported them, and before the brigade promised me came up, very unexpectedly to me, several of our pieces from the left dashed down the slope of the hill, in front of my left, to within close range of the enemy's skirmishers, which they had not seen. The enemy's skirmishers and the infantry in their rear commenced moving and firing on them immediately, and seeing their danger, I at once ordered my brigade forward at double-quick, which order was complied with, the men rushing down with a shout, and reaching the pieces just in time to save them. At the same time a fire was opened from the woods to the left by some troops of General Winder's command, and the infantry fight then begun. The enemy's front regiments soon began to give way and other regiments were seen advancing through the wheat-field to the left and additional regiments through the corn-field in my front. I rode to my right and threw the twelfth Georgia regiment to the left, along the crest of a ridge, which made a curve in front, affording it a very good natural defence and enabling it to give the enemy a flank fire. Just as I completed this movement, I observed a brigade passing from the rear to my right, which proved to be one of Major General Hill's brigades, commanded by Colonel Thomas. I immediately proceeded to post this brigade to the right of the twelfth Georgia regiment and at right angles with it, where it also had a strong position. After getting this brigade in position, during which operation my whole left was excluded from my view, I rode towards the left and found that the pieces of artillery that had been advanced had been retired, and that the left regiments of my brigade and all the troops to their left, as far as I could see, had fallen back, and the enemy were advancing up the slope of the hill. I saw at once the critical position in which we were placed. The twelfth Georgia regiment, the four companies of the fifty-second Virginia regiment, with Lieutenant Colonel Skinner, and a part of the fifty-eighth Virginia regiment, under Major Kasey, of my own brigade, had not given way, and Colonel Thomas' brigade was still left on my right. These troops were then isolated and in an advanced position, and had they given way, the day, in all probability, would have been lost. I could not, therefore, go to rally those of my regiments, which were retiring, but despatched Major Hale, my acting assistant adjutant general, to do so, and I immediately rode to the right to urge the troops there to hold their position. After doing this, I rode again towards the left and discovered the enemy retiring before some of our troops, which were again advancing. These I discovered to be a portion of my own brigade, which had been rallied and a portion of General Taliaferro's brigade. I rode up to them and while I was here the enemy attempted to retrieve the fortunes of the day by a cavalry charge along the Culpeper road, which was, however, successfully repulsed by a fire

from the thirteenth Virginia regiment, Colonel Taliaferro's regiment, of General Taliaferro's brigade, and a number of parties from other brigades.

This was after sunset, and the troops, which had rallied and driven the enemy back, advanced into the corn-field. I rode off to the right again, and found the troops there maintaining their ground against a body of infantry in front of Colonel Thomas' brigade, which kept its position for some time. The ammunition of my own regiments being nearly exhausted, as was that of Colonel Thomas' brigade, I directed them to maintain their ground at all hazards, and use the bayonet if necessary, and they did not waver for a moment. I did not order an advance from this position, because it would have had to have been made under great disadvantages, and with great danger of being attacked on the right flank. The position of these troops was, all the time, until the enemy had entirely given way, in advance of the line, and I was satisfied that they could accomplish more by maintaining their position than by advancing. A little before dusk, the last of the enemy's regiments left the ground, on the advance of our troops to the left, into the corn-field, and we were left masters of the battle-field. In a short time, I was informed by Major General Hill, who came where I was, that General Jackson's order was to advance in pursuit of the enemy on the Culpeper road, and that his division was advancing. I informed him of the fact that the whole of my ammunition was exhausted, and that my brigade was much fatigued, and in some confusion; but as he expressed the opinion that I ought to advance, I collected the brigade and did advance, until I was met by General Ewell, who had come up from the right, and was by him ordered to wait until the other two brigades of the division came up on the road from the right and follow them, which I did, and was shortly after halted and ordered to bivouac for the night.

Johnson's battery, attached to this brigade, had accompanied the seventh and eighth brigades, and its movements were under the direction of the Major General commanding the division.

I have since ascertained that the giving way of the regiments on my left, which has been mentioned, was caused by the fact that the brigade on their left gave way before the enemy's infantry, which advanced through the wheat field, and that the enemy got into the woods on their left and fired into their rear. This disorder was confined to the twenty-fifth, thirty-first, and part of the fifty-eighth Virginia regiments. Colonel Walker, who was on my extreme left, maintained his position with his regiment, the thirteenth, and part of the thirty-first Virginia regiment, until they were alone and the enemy were firing into their rear in the field. He then ordered them to retire, but he again formed them and brought them forward, and contributed very largely to the final repulse of the enemy, advancing as far as any of our troops were advanced, until after the conclusion of the fight. I call especial attention to his report. He is a most efficient and gallant officer, who is always ready to perform any duty assigned him, and the men of his regiment are capital fighting men, there being none better in the army. When Colonel Walker is in front, with his

men deployed as skirmishers, I feel secure against an ambuscade. I respectfully and earnestly recommend him for promotion to the position of Brigadier General.

Lieutenant Colonel Terrell, of the same regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Skinner commanding the fifty-second Virginia regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Jackson, commanding the thirty first Virginia regiment, (severely wounded;) Major Kasey, commanding the fifty-eighth Virginia regiment; Major Higginbotham, commanding the twenty-fifth Virginia regiment, and Captain William F. Brown commanding the twelfth Georgia regiment, all acquitted themselves with great gallantry. The brigade generally acquitted itself well.

The disorder in some of the regiments was, as before stated, after the troops on their left had given way and the enemy had gotten on their flank and rear, and it was after Lieutenant Colonel Jackson, of the thirty-first and Major Higginbotham were both wounded and carried to the rear, leaving their regiments, which chiefly participated in the disorder, without commanders.

The conduct of the twelfth Georgia, with which I was more than any other, elicited my especial approbation. It is a gallant fighting regiment, and I have had occasion before to notice its good conduct. Its commander in this action, Captain William F. Brown, who is over sixty years of age, displayed great coolness, courage and energy. He is eminently deserving the command of a regiment, and I recommend him for promotion to fill the first vacancy that may occur among the field officers of the regiment.

Captain Lilly, of the twenty-fifth Virginia regiment, with a small body of his regiment, (twenty-fifth Virginia,) including the color-bearer, attracted my attention by the gallantry displayed by them in advancing among the foremost after the regiment had got into disorder. A body of men, from the twenty-first Virginia regiment, around their colors, advancing in the same way, attracted my attention by their gallantry. I was particularly struck by the bravery exhibited by the color-bearers of these two regiments, who, with these small bodies of men, were waving their flags in the very front, as if to attract a fire upon them, and advancing all the while,

Captain Brown, of the Chesapeake Artillery, and Captain Dement displayed great courage and efficiency, themselves loading and firing their pieces, when their men were exhausted.

I was attracted by the conspicuous gallantry exhibited by Colonel Taliaferro, of the twenty-third Virginia regiment, who I saw urging his men on.

My staff officers, Major P. Hall, A. A. General; Lieutenant S. H. Early, A. D. C., and Major A. L. Pitzer, volunteer A. D. C., displayed great courage and energy in carrying my orders under fire, and in rallying and encouraging the troops. They were everywhere on the field where there was danger, each having his horse struck under him.

There were doubtless many cases of individual gallantry upon the part of officers and men, to which I am not able to do justice, and I do not wish it to be understood that they are intentionally overlooked.

My effective strength in infantry, on the morning of the 9th, was seventeen hundred, of which about three hundred and fifty were left on picket.

Subjoined is a list of killed, wounded and missing, showing sixteen killed, one hundred and forty-five wounded, and two missing, total one hundred and sixty-three.

I can also bear testimony to the gallantry and good conduct of Colonel Tomas, and the officers and men of his brigade, whose timely arrival rendered my right secure, and whose deadly fire contributed largely to the repulse of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. EARLY,

*Brigadier General commanding Brigade.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL RONALD OF FIRST BRIGADE.

HEADQ'RS FIRST BRIGADE VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS, V. D., }  
August 15, 1862. }

W. T. TALIAFERRO, A. A. A. General:

SIR: Before the brigade became engaged in the battle of Cedar Run, on Saturday, the 9th, Brigadier General Charles S. Winder was mortally wounded, whereupon the command devolved on me. In obedience to your order, therefore, I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the first brigade in the battle of Cedar Run, Culpeper county, on the 9th instant:

The following regiments constitute the brigade: The fifth, second, fourth, thirty-third and twenty-seventh Virginia, commanded on this occasion as follows: The fifth by Major Williams, the second by Lieutenant Colonel Lawson Botts, the fourth by Lieutenant Colonel Robert D. Gardner, the thirty-third by Lieutenant Colonel Edward G. Lee, the twenty-seventh by Captain Charles L. Haynes. Captains Carpenter's and Poague's batteries are attached. The brigade bivouacked, on the night of the 8th, in Madison county, on the road leading to Culpeper Court-House, and about one mile from Madison Mills, on the Rapidan river. On the morning of the 9th, the brigade took up the line of march in the direction of Culpeper Court-House. The march was frequently interrupted from causes unknown to me at the time, and, at fifteen minutes past three o'clock, P. M., the brigade was halted in the woods a short distance to the left of the road. At this time, some cannonading was going on in front. Here several parrot guns from Captains Poague's and Carpenter's batteries were ordered to the front. These were posted in the road so as to enfilade the enemy's batteries, then engaging our batteries on the right. General Winder was in the front, directing, with great ability and judgment, the movements of the batteries. These batteries, in a short time, succeeded in driving the enemy's guns from their chosen position, after which Captains Poague and Carpenter were directed to take position in a corn-field on the right of the road, where they opened a rapid fire upon the enemy's guns, and soon silenced several of them. Shortly after this, General Winder was mortally wounded and borne from the field, the brigade still resting where it was halted at fifteen minutes past three o'clock. A little after four o'clock, P. M., I was ordered to put the brigade in line of battle, perpendicular to the road, and move forward, the line having been arranged in the following order, viz: Twenty-seventh on the right, the thirty-third on the left of the twenty-seventh, the fifth left of the thirty-third, second left of the fifth, and the fourth left of the second. I moved forward through the woods, but in a few minutes I was ordered to put the brigade in column of regiments, which order was executed promptly; but before advancing the column I was ordered to deploy the column and advance in line of bat-

tle, letting the right rest about one hundred yards from the road. The line of battle being thus re-established I moved forward through the woods, under a heavy fire of spherical case and canister shot, from the enemy's guns. Arriving at a fence that partly enclosed an open field, I halted the brigade and sent Captain John H. Fulton, acting aid, to inform General Taliaferro of my position, and to receive his order. Captain Fulton returned, stating that the General directed me to move on. I put the brigade in motion and rode some two hundred yards in advance, in order to gain the top of the hill, from which I supposed I could have a good view. Arriving at the top of the hill, I observed the enemy, about three hundred yards distant, advancing in line of battle, when I immediately rode back to the brigade, which, having advanced to within four hundred yards of the enemy, and in view of each other, this brigade then opened fire upon the enemy, and having discharged several volleys, which seemed to confuse him, I immediately ordered the brigade to charge, which order was promptly executed, and with fine effect, the enemy falling back in great confusion, leaving many of his dead and wounded upon the field. Arriving at the woods in his retreat, the enemy attempted to reform his line, which I determined to prevent, by following him up; but at this moment, I was informed that the enemy had turned the left of the second brigade, (which I supposed, until that moment, rested on the right of the first brigade:) whereupon, I immediately directed a change of front, which was done as promptly as it could be under the circumstances, which enabled me to engage this flank movement of the enemy. But General Branch's brigade coming up at this moment, his line being perpendicular to the road, while the line of the first brigade was parallel, General Branch opened a vigorous fire upon the enemy, which soon succeeded in driving him from his position. He was here compelled to pass through a large grain field in his retreat, which exposed his broken columns to a deadly cross-fire from Branch's and this brigade. About sundown, General Pender's (I think it was) brigade appeared on the extreme left of the open field I first entered. He continued his march by the flank until his right reached the north-east corner of the field, when I sent Captain Fulton to inform him that the enemy was in the woods to his right. He then continued his march for some distance, and then put his brigade in line of battle, his right resting on the left of the first brigade, and then the whole line advanced in the direction of the main road. Very shortly after this connection was formed, a short but very vigorous contest ensued, which succeeded in completely routing the enemy. [It is proper here to state that the enemy engaged in the woods, at this point, is the same column whose reformation of line I attempted to prevent when informed that the left flank of the second brigade had been turned.] Here the enemy's loss was very heavy. This brigade pursued the now retreating foe until after dark, when I was ordered to halt and rest for the night.

The conduct of the troops in this brigade was, indeed, splendid; men never behaved better. Regimental commanders were conspicuous for their gallantry, and company officers deserve great praise,

not only for their gallantry, but for their successful efforts in keeping their companies together. Indeed, when the brigade was halted for the night, nearly all were present.

The brigade captured three stands of colors, one of which was improperly taken from a private of the —— regiment by a commissioned officer of some other command. Two stands of colors were taken by the fifth regiment.

For individual acts of gallantry, I refer you to the reports of regimental and battery commanders, herewith presented. Upon assuming command, Captain John H. Fulton, of the fourth regiment, and Major Holliday, of the thirty-third regiment, kindly consented to act as aids, in connection with Lieutenant Garnett, of General Winder's staff, and to these gentlemen I am much indebted for their valuable services.

Captain Fulton was conspicuous in the fight, transmitting every order with great promptness and despatch.

Major Holliday, a gallant and brave man, while in the execution of an order, was severely wounded in the right arm, rendering amputation necessary. He was wounded early in the engagement.

Lieutenant Garnett was active in the field, and his gallantry was conspicuous. With the aid these gentlemen rendered me upon the field, my new position, as brigade commander, was relieved of much embarrassment.

Captains Carpenter and Poague are deserving of especial notice for the great service they rendered with their batteries. Captain Carpenter was wounded by a minie-ball in the head, though I think not severely.

The casualties in the brigade was, ten killed and fifty-one wounded. This includes General Winder, and in his death, the brigade was deprived of his great services, the army of an able and accomplished officer, the country of a good citizen, and society of an ornament.

I attribute so few casualties to the fact that the brigade charged at the proper time.

For a list of casualties, see reports of regimental and battery commanders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
CHARLES A. RONALD,  
*Colonel commanding 1st Brigade.*

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL GARNETT, OF  
SECOND · BRIGADE.

CAMP NEAR LIBERTY MILLS,  
*Headquarters Second Brigade, First Division, A. V. D.* }

Major W. T. TALIAFERRO,

*Assistant Adjutant General, First Division:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the second brigade, in the battle near Cedar creek, on the 9th instant:

By order of General Winder, commanding first division, the second brigade was ordered, about half past three o'clock, P. M., to march to the front—passing the first brigade—to rest its right near a school-house in the vicinity of the battle-field. Remaining in this position until General Early's brigade had driven in the cavalry pickets, I received orders to move rapidly forward along the main road towards the enemy's position. In executing this movement, the brigade was fired upon by the enemy's batteries, killing five and wounding six men of the forty-eighth Virginia regiment. To prevent any further accident, the brigade was filed to the left in the woods, and proceeded along the slope of a hill parallel to the road, until it had marched to a point where the road emerged from the woods into a field directly in front of the enemy's batteries. Here General Winder ordered me to file to the left along a by-road in the woods, and to follow it as far as I could under cover of the woods. On reaching this last position, I was to place the brigade in line of battle, and charge the nearest battery by a flank movement, while our artillery engaged it in front. On reconnoitering the position of the battery, a heavy body of infantry was discovered in its rear, and a long line of cavalry, behind a fence covered with brush, on the left of the battery, commanding perfectly the field the second brigade would necessarily cross in reaching its destination. I reported these facts immediately to General Winder, through Lieutenant White, acting aid-de-camp, and received orders on his return to remain where I was for a few moments. This was the last order I received from General Winder, whose untimely death none more deplore than the second brigade. We were proud to be under his command and mingle our sorrows with those of the nation at his early fall. General Taliaferro now assuming command, ordered such a disposition of the second brigade as would afford some protection to the batteries on our right and some four hundred yards to the rear. The twenty-first Virginia regiment formed the extreme right, and the forty-eighth Virginia regiment was placed on the left of the twenty-first, and were designed to repulse any charge of the enemy on our batteries, as ordered by General Taliaferro. The forty-second Virginia regiment and first Virginia battalion formed our left, and commanded a field nearly at right angles with that in front of the

forty-eighth and twenty-first. In this position skirmishers were thrown forward, and, on the extreme left, a courier was left with Major Seddon, with instructions to report any movements of the enemy in a thick woodland on his extreme left, which was supposed to be occupied. At this juncture General Jackson and staff arrived, and I received orders from the General to look well to my left flank and to report at once to General Taliaferro for reinforcements. Accordingly, Captain Wilson, assistant adjutant general, second brigade, and Lieutenant White, acting aid-de-camp, were sent in different parts of the field to ensure an early interview with the General, and to secure, without delay, the support required. Before these officers returned, the enemy had advanced rapidly, already engaging our right. With coolness and determination, the regiments on the right delivered their fire, keeping a superior number of the enemy at bay. Firing now commenced on the left, and hastening to the position occupied by the first Virginia battalion, I discovered the enemy in heavy force rapidly advancing, not more than fifty yards from our front, bearing down upon us also from the left, delivering, as they came, a most galling fire. Unable to withstand this fire from front and flank, the first Virginia battalion gave way in confusion, and rendered abortive any efforts of its corps of gallant officers to reform it. Finding our left turned, I rode up to Major Layne, commanding the forty-second, and ordered a change of front to meet the enemy in this new direction; but, before this could be executed, he fell mortally wounded, and the movement could not be accomplished before the enemy had commenced a fire in their rear, producing some confusion and disorder. The other regiment, all the while engaged in front, were also attacked in rear, now that the left flank was turned, producing much disorder in their ranks. In this double fire, front and rear, fell the gallant officers, Lieutenant Colonel Cunningham, Major Layne, and Captain Dyerle. Reinforcements coming up, portions of different regiments were reformed and assisted in driving the enemy discomfitted from the field. The terrible loss in this brigade resulted from its left flank being turned, thereby subjecting it to a double fire. Had reinforcements, momentarily expected, arrived ten minutes sooner, no disaster would have happened. The long list of killed and wounded officers, accompanying this report, is the best evidence of their courage and fidelity in the discharge of duty. Lieutenant Colonel Cunningham, as all who knew him expected, behaved with distinguished bravery and coolness. His place is not easily filled. The same may be said of Major Layne, Major Seddon and Captain Hannum, commanding regiments, and of the officers attached to their commands. It would be improper to close this report without calling the attention of the General to the acts of savage brutality perpetrated by the enemy upon our officers and men who fell into their hands temporarily as prisoners. Such fiendish barbarity is not to be found in the history of warfare among civilized nations.

To the members of my staff all praise is due for their bravery and efficiency in the discharge of every duty. They consisted of Captain Wilson, assistant adjutant general, Lieutenant Dabney, aid-de-camp,

and Lieutenant White, first Virginia battalion, acting aid-de-camp. For further particulars, the General is referred to reports from regimental commanders herewith enclosed.

THOMAS S. GARNETT,

*Lieut. Col. commanding 2nd Brigade, 1st Division, A. V. D.*

V. DABNEY, *Aid-de-Camp.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL TALIAFERRO OF THIRD BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, A. V., }  
*McGruder's Farm, Orange county, Va., August 14, 1862.* }

To Brigadier General W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
Commanding First Division, A. V.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part sustained by the third brigade of the first division, Army of the Valley, in the battle of Cedar creek, on the 9th instant:

This brigade was under your immediate command until about four o'clock, P. M., when I was notified of the death of General Winder, commanding the first division, and that you had assumed its command. The command of this brigade thereupon devolved upon me, as the senior officer, and my report is confined to the conduct of the brigade subsequent to my assumption of its command. The brigade at that time occupied a position on the left of General Early's brigade, and on the right of the second brigade of this division, under Lieutenant Colonel Garnett, the first brigade, under Colonel Ronald, being in rear, as a support to the third. The brigade was then exposed to a heavy fire from the enemy's artillery, which it sustained with great firmness, officers and men alike displaying the coolness of veterans. Soon after, the order to advance was given, which was obeyed with alacrity, under a galling fire from the enemy's batteries, firing over the heads of their infantry. As soon as this brigade arrived within musket shot of the enemy it commenced firing, and continued a destructive fire until it was discovered that the enemy, in strong force, had turned the left flank of the second brigade, exposing it to a fire so destructive that it was compelled to give way, in some disorder. This left the regiments on the left of this brigade exposed to the fire of the enemy in front, and also on its left flank. Under this fire, and the example of the second brigade, the forty-seventh and forty-eighth Alabama regiments, commanded respectively by Colonel Jackson and Colonel Sheffield, (for the first time under fire,) gave way, and fell back some distance, but were promptly rallied by their officers. A part of the thirty-seventh Virginia, commanded by Colonel Williams, was also thrown into confusion, and the whole compelled to fall back. The tenth, Major Stover, and the twenty-third Virginia, Lieutenant Colonel Curtis, likewise fell back, under my orders. The whole brigade was speedily reformed and, supported cordially by the first brigade, which promptly advanced on its left, again advanced and charged the enemy. The enemy soon broke and fled in great disorder. We pursued them until darkness interposed, and we were ordered to a position in advance of the battle-field, where we slept on our arms. In the pursuit, this brigade captured a number of prisoners, among them Brigadier General Prince, who was brought in by private John Booker, company I, twenty-third Virginia regiment. He brought him to me, but as General Taliaferro was near, who was

of superior rank, I ordered him to be taken to him, and to him he promptly surrendered. Just at the time the enemy broke, their cavalry charged us, but were received by a galling fire from this brigade. They broke, and were fired upon also by the first and second, and General Branch's brigade, which had come up on our left, and fled with great precipitation and loss.

I have to regret the loss of many brave and good officers and men. It will be hard to supply their places, but they fell on the field of honor, in defence of their homes, their people, their liberty, and all that makes life dear to man, and a grateful country and posterity will award them their meed of praise. Lieutenant Colonel Curtis, commanding twenty-third regiment Virginia volunteers, fell, mortally wounded, while gallantly leading his regiment into action. He came to the regiment in September, 1861, from Brooke county, Virginia, a private, and a refugee from the tyrants of the Northwest, and, in the reorganization he was called to the position he so gallantly filled, a fit testimonial by the officers to his gallantry and good conduct. He has fallen far from his home and friends, but will long be remembered by all associated with him in the cause of liberty. Colonel Williams, of the thirty-seventh Virginia regiment, was slightly, and Colonel Sheffield, of the forty-eighth Alabama regiment, was painfully wounded. Both these officers behaved with great gallantry. All the officers and men of this brigade behaved well, and I beg leave to thank them for their gallant and good conduct, manifested under the most trying circumstances. For the details of the killed and wounded, I beg leave to refer you to the reports of regimental commanders, herewith returned, and which sum up as follows:

	<i>Killed.</i>	<i>Wounded.</i>
Tenth regiment Virginia volunteers, - - -	6	37
Twenty-third regiment Virginia volunteers, - - -	5	27
Thirty-seventh regiment Virginia volunteers, - - -	13	64
Forty-seventh regiment Alabama volunteers, - - -	12	85
Forty-eighth regiment Alabama volunteers, - - -	15	58
 Total, - - - - -	51	271

All of which is most respectfully submitted,

ALEXANDER G. TALIAFERRO,  
*Colonel commanding Third Brigade, A. V.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL STAFFORD.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND LOUISIANA BRIGADE, }  
August 14, 1862. }

To Major General A. P. HILL:

I very respectfully submit the following report of the action and position of this brigade under my command, at the battle of Cedar creek, on the 9th instant:

With my command, I reached, by double-quicking, the battle-field just in time to hear the last guns fired and to witness the stragglers of the retreat. Immediately after forming line of battle, the brigade was thrown forward as the advance guard, and for a quarter of a mile through a dense woods, heavy skirmishing was kept up between the skirmishers of the enemy and those of my own deployment. In an open field, after passing the skirt of woods, I found the enemy in large force, much superior to my own, and in line of battle. By orders of General Jackson, with my brigade, I formed a line of battle along a fence separating the field from the woods and at right angles with the main road by which I was advancing. I was severely shelled at various times during the night, while the firing of the skirmishers was periodical from a little after dark until near eleven o'clock next morning. The entire brigade remained in line of battle until ordered back at or near ten o'clock, A. M., 10th instant. The following companies were deployed as skirmishers, and behaved with that gallantry and coolness that entitles the officers and men to the highest praise, viz.: Company A, Captain Grigsby; company B, Captain Cumming, and company D, Captain Hodges, of the ninth Louisiana regiment. The casualties of the brigade were twenty wounded and four killed. Deeply do I regret to state that the following named officers (and a few privates, who could not be detected,) absented themselves without leave during that period of the engagement in which my command participated, viz.: First Lieutenant B. F. Jackson and Captain Singletary, of the ninth Louisiana regiment. All of which is respectfully submitted.

L. A. STAFFORD,  
*Colonel commanding 2d La. Brigade.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL CRUTCHFIELD.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY, SECOND CORPS, }  
March 14, 1863. }

Lieutenant Colonel C. J. FAULKNER,  
*Assistant Adjutant General :*

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the artillery of this army corps in the battle of Cedar Run, of August 9th, 1862:

The road on which we advanced debouched from a piece of woods upon the immediate battle-field, which was open and somewhat broken, a brook running across it and the prolongation of the road and making a small angle with our general line of battle. The advance of our troops was the division of Brigadier General C. S. Winder, and its artillery became first engaged. The enemy's batteries occupied rising ground to the right and beyond the mouth of the road, while his infantry extended from these batteries towards our left. About two, P. M., a gun placed at the mouth of the road by Major R. S. Andrews, commanding the artillery of General Winder's division, opened on the enemy. His cavalry skirmishers and out-posts had been previously driven in by Brigadier General Early's brigade, which was just to the right of this point. The reply was immediate and from this time the enemy kept up a sharp fire at this point, as one near which our troops and batteries must pass in taking position. I found that to the right and front, some two hundred and fifty yards, were rises in the ground favorable for positions for artillery. I therefore directed Major Andrews to move forward his rifle guns to these points. He moved out four rifles and one twelve-pounder Napoleon. The latter and two rifles were from Captain Poague's battery and the others from those of Captains Caskie and Carpenter. Their fire was directed against the enemy's batteries in order to protect the deployment of our infantry. They were excellently served, and so completely occupied the enemy's guns, about twelve in number, I think, that Major Andrews proposed to move one or two smooth-bored batteries further down the road and endeavor to enfilade the enemy's position. In trying to do this he was wounded, and the complexion of affairs just after prevented its subsequent execution. Meanwhile the battery of Captain Latimer, which had moved with Major General Ewell's division, had opened on the enemy from a position at the base of Slaughter's Mountain, far to our right, while the batteries of Captains Brown and Dement, (the two comprising six guns,) had position between the battery of Captain Latimer and those of Major Andrews. These two batteries were capitally served and evidently damaged the enemy severely.

Thus far the fight had been between the opposing artillery exclusively. At this time the enemy's infantry advanced in line of battle, that is, a regiment of them through a corn-field just beyond the

brook and in front of Major Andrews' guns. Unable apparently to cross in this formation, they formed column of companies for the purpose. Just then Major Andrews turned his guns upon them, (for it was before he had been wounded,) and opening with canister soon broke them. At this time Lieutenant Colonel R. L. Walker coming up with the artillery of Major General A. P. Hill's division, I directed him to place four rifle guns on the rising ground to Major Andrews' right. He placed them by sections—two from Captain Pegram's battery and two from Captain Fleet's, the latter under command of Lieutenant Hardy. These guns now were formed in echelon—Captain Pegram being in advance and to the right, next to him Lieutenant Hardy, while the guns from General Winder's division were further to the left and something in advance of Lieutenant Hardy, giving an oblique fire across their front. At this moment the enemy's infantry advanced again in general line across the corn-field and Lieutenant Colonel Walker's guns were turned on them exclusively. In a short time our infantry on the left of the road was apparently thrown into confusion and gave way; the enemy advancing, the rear of the guns of General Winder's division was exposed and they were withdrawn by General Jackson's order. At the same time the enemy made a feeble effort to advance through and from the corn-field, but a well-directed fire of canister from the guns of Captain Pegram and Lieutenant Hardy, supported by, I believe, the thirteenth Virginia regiment, Colonel J. A. Walker, checked them, though their skirmishers got quite near under cover of the accidents of the ground. The temporary confusion on the left was soon overcome and in a short time the enemy gave way, and our whole line advancing, the artillery moved along the road, unable to cross the brook in front through the field. The pursuit continued until having crossed a second brook, we came upon a large body of woods. It being deemed advisable to shell these before advancing further, the batteries of Captains Pegram, Fleet, Braxton, and Latham, were placed in position under Lieutenant Colonel Walker, some eighty or one hundred yards distant and a heavy fire opened in various directions. After a short time, Captain Pegram's battery was ordered forward with an infantry brigade, through these woods about a quarter of a mile. It took position just beyond and opened upon what was thought and proved to be the enemy's camp. A battery was soon opened in reply, and a heavy cannonade was the consequence, for some time, causing Captain Pegram severe loss. His battery, however, retained its position till next morning, when it was withdrawn. We lost no pieces or caissons, but had two guns dismounted by the enemy's fire. We captured one twelve-pounder Napoleon (spiked) and carriage and caisson, with two other caissons and a limber, all of which were brought off. The gun and caisson were sent to Richmond, one caisson exchanged into Captain Poague's battery, and the other caisson and limber also sent to Richmond.

It is due that I should call especial attention to the gallantry displayed by Major R. L. Andrews in this action. He was severely wounded, and, in our withdrawal, fell a prisoner into the hands of

the enemy. Captain J. Carpenter, a most excellent officer, received a wound from which he has since died, while fearlessly exposing himself in looking out a position for his battery.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

S. CRUTCHFIELD,

*Colonel and Chief Artillery 2d Corps.*

REPORT OF CAPTAIN WITCHER OF TWENTY-FIRST VIRGINIA REGIMENT.

CAMP NEAR GORDONSVILLE, August 13, 1862.

Major JOHN SEDDON,

*Commanding Second Brigade:*

SIR: In obedience to order, I offer the following report of the twenty-first Virginia regiment in the battle of Slaughter's Mountain, on the 9th instant, which, I fear, will be an imperfect one, as I only took command after the fight had considerably advanced:

The regiment was posted in line of battle in the woods, about forty paces back of the road, to the left of a battery in the field, and facing to the road, a small party being sent to the road in front of our extreme left to keep watch. In this position, the men were ordered to lie down to protect them from the enemy's cannonading, which was kept up with great vigor. A number of shells exploded in our vicinity, one of which struck and killed William H. Morgan, of company F, a young officer of great merit. In about half an hour, a volley of musketry was heard on our left, when the party on the road immediately returned, and reported that a regiment was advancing along the road and fence. Lieutenant Colonel Cunningham ordered our regiment forward to the edge of the road, which order was promptly obeyed, all seeming eager for the engagement. Soon after reaching the road and engaging the enemy, another regiment of them emerged from a corn-field, and arrayed themselves in line of battle to our left oblique. This seemed to heighten the ardor of our men, who fought with all the gallantry and energy that could have been desired, and completely checking the enemy's advance. The fight was raging fiercely, and our men in high spirits, when suddenly, and without any warning whatever, a murderous fire was poured upon us from the rear, at least a brigade of the enemy having passed through the woods and reached within twenty or thirty paces of us. We had supposed that our rear was protected; why it was not, is not for me to say. About this time, Lieutenant Colonel Cunningham appeared at the left of the line and gave some command, which, amid the firing, I could not understand. I ordered those near me, however, to about-face; some obeyed, but many others were so intent upon firing at the enemy before them, and so little apprehensive of danger from the rear, that they seemed not to understand the command. Colonel Cunningham again gave some command, which, owing to the circumstances, I could not distinctly hear. He waived his hand towards the fence rather to the right, and, after several times ordering it, I got the men to start in that direction. In making the movement, they became somewhat scattered and confused, some going fast, while others would load, turn and fire as they went. To add to the confusion of the moment, in addition to the many other brave men and officers who fell at this point, our gallant and beloved leader, Lieutenant Colonel Cunningham fell mortally wounded; the adjutant was taken by

enemy, though he afterwards escaped; the sergeant-major was shot down; the flag-bearer was shot dead; a corporal of the color-guard, seizing the colors, shared the same fate, and a private who next raised them fell, wounded in three places. Under these unfavorable circumstances, a portion of the regiment rallied and formed at the crest of the hill, not more than one hundred and fifty paces from the road. Here, some troops, which had fallen back, rallied, and joined us, and after a spirited contest of ten or fifteen minutes, drove the enemy, who had advanced into the road and field, back into the woods. We then turned our fire upon the enemy's line of battle in the meadow, which soon broke and began to retire. From this we pushed forward wherever the fight seemed thickest, assisting in the repulse of the cavalry charge, and mingling in the fire upon the retreating foe, till he had entirely disappeared from the field. No troops, in my opinion, could have behaved with more daring and obstinacy than those of the twenty-first. There were instances of individual heroism, which I refrain from mentioning, lest injustice should be done to others. Before concluding this report, I deem it my duty to bring to your notice a fact which shows the barbarous and brutal manner in which this war is being conducted by our enemies. Second Lieutenant Thomas M. Brown, of company K, was taken prisoner at the time our regiment left the woods. He was afterwards found in the woods mortally wounded, and, before dying, stated to Lieutenant Roach, of the twenty-first, and Captain Turner of the Irish battalion, that he was taken unhurt, but when the enemy were forced to retreat, they knocked him down with their guns, and bayoneted him in several places. He was in his proper mind at the time of making this statement, and died the same night. Accompanying this report I forward a list of casualties.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. A. WITCHER,  
*Captain, commanding 21st Virginia Regiment.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR SEDDON.

HEADQ'RS 1ST VA. BAT., 2ND BRIG., 1ST DIV., A. V. D., }  
August 14, 1862. }

Lieut. Col. T. L. GARNETT,

*Commanding Second Brigade on the evening of the 9th inst. :*

**COLONEL:** I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the first Virginia battalion during the late engagement with the enemy near Cedar creek, on the evening of the 9th instant:

The first Virginia battalion, under my command, was marched, with the rest of the second brigade, through a body of woods and was drawn up in line of battle, with inverted front, on the extreme left of the brigade in the wood, with a small wheat-field in our front. The woods were so dense that no other portion of our brigade could be seen from our position. We took up our position about a quarter past four o'clock, P. M. At about a quarter to six o'clock, a large brigade of the enemy emerged from the woods beyond the wheat field, and advanced against our line, in fine order, at a double-quick. A corn-field on the right, and a brush-field on the left of the wheat-field, prevented me from seeing either wing of the enemy, which seemed to extend indefinitely in both directions. By order, the battalion fired as the enemy came within one hundred and fifty yards of our position, with very little effect. We fired two more scattering volleys, all with little effect. By this time the enemy were close upon our front, and had closed in upon our left flank. Seeing this, the battalion gave way and retreated rapidly and in great confusion. Being on the extreme left of the brigade, we were the first to see the flank movement of the enemy, and by the rapid retreat, were prevented from being surrounded.

All the officers of the battalion strove most gallantly to hold the men to their position, and made the most heroic endeavors to rally them after they had broken. Failing in this, some of the officers and men joined in with the reserves and took part in their successful advance. Second Lieutenant Alexander, company A, was disabled by a severe wound in the left thigh, about the time the battalion gave way. It may be proper to add that Lieutenant White, acting aid-de-camp to Colonel Garnett, informed me, just as the enemy advanced from the woods, that the tenth Virginia regiment occupied our left.

Accompanying this you will please find a list of casualties.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN SEDDON,  
*Major commanding 1st Va. Battalion.*

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL JACKSON.

CAMP NEAR LIBERTY MILLS, }  
August 13, 1862. }

To Colonel TALIAFERRO,  
*Commanding Third Brigade, A. V. :*

COLONEL: On Saturday last, the 9th instant, four o'clock, P. M., I arrived with my regiment (the forty-seventh Alabama) within range of the enemy's batteries that had opened on the advancing columns of our army. We were allowed to rest a few minutes, when we were again ordered to advance, and take our position under the range of the enemy's guns. We advanced along the road for the distance of a mile, with the enemy's shells bursting over our heads; but, as we were within the range given to their guns, no damage was done to my regiment. When the position desired by our brigade commander was gained, we were ordered to form our line of battle and lie down. By this time the cannonade was in quicker succession. The men under my command behaved themselves very well, though somewhat confused at the bursting of shells over their heads; but after remaining a short time they became quiet. We remained about forty minutes in this position, without sustaining any loss, when the order was given by General Taliaferro to advance in line of battle. I reported this command to the regiment, when they advanced in tolerable order, the distance of fifty yards, when we approached a fence, which we crossed and found ourselves in presence of the enemy's infantry, which had opened on us with some effect. I formed my men in line of battle, about three hundred yards from the line of the enemy, and opened fire on them. Although it was the first battle any of my men had ever been in, yet they behaved themselves very well, and returned the fire in quick succession, and with a good deal of deliberation. Affairs remained in this position for about twenty minutes, when we found ourselves attacked from a very unexpected quarter; the enemy having flanked us, had come round to our rear, and were pouring heavy volleys on us, at the distance of forty paces. As soon as I discovered this new enemy, I gave the command to face about. A few companies of the right wing obeyed the command; but the left, not understanding the order and being subjected to a severe cross-fire, gave way and retreated across the field. As soon as the left gave way, the right also got into confusion and followed the left. I made repeated efforts to rally the regiment, but, finding it impossible to do so under the cross-fire they were subjected to, I followed them across the field, and on a hill that screened them from the balls of the enemy. As soon as they found themselves out of range, they halted and began of themselves to rally to their standard. I encouraged them as much as my exhausted state from fatigue and feeble health would permit, and soon had the satisfaction of seeing most of them returning to duty. I ordered the colors to advance, which they did, and the regiment fol-

lowed, though without any line of battle. I remained behind, sending up those that showed less inclination to advance. I soon found it would be impossible to get them in regular line, and, therefore, stayed a few paces in the rear, encouraging those that stayed behind, and preventing them from firing among those in advance. We continued to advance in this open way, to within two hundred yards of the enemy, drawn up in another field, on the opposite side of the field. The advance of our line at this point made a halt, and very deliberately returned the fire of the enemy. I encouraged those in the rear to advance as far as their friends had done, and soon had the satisfaction of seeing them slowly make their way to the front. The front line seeing the rear advance, also advanced, and the enemy in a few minutes began to give ground. At this point we were charged by a body of cavalry, but, meeting with a rolling fire from our line, they retreated with considerable loss. Our men now advanced in quick time, and the enemy's retreat soon became a complete rout. We continued to pursue them from one field to another, until about seven o'clock, when our men becoming exhausted, made a halt, and took no further part in the action.

The number of killed in my regiment was eleven men and one captain, Captain Munsen, who fell at the time we were flanked by the enemy. The captain conducted himself with great gallantry, and the regiment has sustained a great loss in his death. We had also ninety men wounded, including those that were wounded slightly. I think the wounded, with a few exceptions, will recover.

The above is an outline of the part played by the forty-seventh Alabama regiment, in the late action between Generals Jackson's and Pope's forces, near Culpeper Court-House.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. JACKSON,

*Lieutenant Colonel, commanding 47th Alabama Volunteers.*

## REPORT OF CAPTAIN DOBYNS OF FORTY-SECOND VIRGINIA REGIMENT.

HEADQUARTERS FORTY-SECOND REGIMENT VIRGINIA VOL., }  
Camp near Liberty Mills, August 13, 1862. }

COLONEL: In obedience to orders, I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the forty-second regiment Virginia volunteers in the recent engagements at Cedar Run, Culpepper county, Virginia, on the 9th August, 1862:

About three o'clock, P. M., the regiment, commanded by Major Henry Layne, in conjunction with the rest of the brigade, was ordered to the front, and accordingly marched along the Culpeper road until it reached a body of woods about half a mile from the battle-field. It was then halted and ordered to load. It was then filed off to the left of the road and marched through the woods nearly parallel with the road, and during the march the woods were very heavily shelled by the enemy; but no casualties occurred in the regiment. The regiment was halted in the woods to the left of the road near a field, where one or two pieces of our artillery was planted, and in action. It remained in this position near half an hour, and was then ordered to move forward, and accordingly marched some four hundred yards until it reached a narrow road leading to a wheat-field; filing down the road to the left, near one hundred yards, it then filed to the right through the woods parallel with the fence until it reached its depth, it was then halted and fronted in line of battle. The forty-eighth Virginia regiment was on the right, and the first Virginia battalion on the left. Our skirmishers, who had previously been thrown out, soon discovered those of the enemy near at hand, and in a few moments the main body of the enemy advanced from the woods opposite the wheat-field to our front, and having gotten mid-way the wheat-field the regiment was ordered to fire, which was done with a great deal of coolness and rapidity, and kept up constantly for some half an hour or more; the regiment remaining in good order all the time. Early in the engagement Major Layne was mortally wounded, and a great many of the company officers and men were killed and wounded.

The enemy having flanked us right and left, were seen suddenly advancing upon our rear in considerable disorder, about this juncture we received orders to fall back, and soon came in contact with the enemy at the point of the bayonet. A good many of the officers and soldiers of the regiment were captured by the enemy, and again recaptured, and many of them severely wounded while in the hands of the enemy. Several officers and men of the regiment, whom we had recaptured from the enemy informed me that they were most brutally maltreated by the enemy, and saw many of our men brutally murdered after being captured. During this portion of the engagement the regiment was thrown in great confusion, and became much scattered; but a larger portion of those remaining were afterwards

rallied and moved forward with General Branch's brigade, and charged through the wheat-field to the woods and halted. The loss was very light during the charge. The regiment was then marched through the wheat-field and across the road to the right into a corn-field, and remained during the night. After this nothing worthy of note occurred.

The loss in the regiment, both in killed and wounded, was very heavy; but not more than six or eight were missing. The regiment captured a large number of the enemy, both officers and men, and sent them to the rear.

Respectfully submitted,

H. DOBYNS,

*Captain, commanding Forty-Second Regiment Virginia Vols.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL W. E. JONES.

HEADQ'RS 7TH REGIMENT VIRGINIA CAVALRY, }  
Orange C. H., August 14, 1862. }

General B. H. ROBERTSON,

SIR : I have the honor to report that, on the 9th instant, my regiment was ordered on a reconnoissance near Madison Court-House. The march of twenty-five miles was made by sundown, and without incident or discovery worthy of record. On returning to camp, we first learned that the battle of Cedar Run had been progressing the greater part of the day, and moved on, without a moment's delay, to the scene of action. Not being able to see you or General Jackson, by the advice of General Hill, I passed between the brigades of Generals Field and Early about dark, for the purpose of pressing the enemy in retreat. After turning the woods on our right, I came on the enemy, drawn up in such order and force as rendered a charge exceedingly dangerous. Holding our post for observation, couriers were sent to inform a battery, sending out shells of inquiry, of the position of the enemy. Before our artillery could be brought to bear, a body of cavalry threatened us; but a gallant charge on our part soon caused them to take shelter under their infantry. We killed one of their horses. Now our artillery commenced shelling the position of the enemy, causing him to retire, and we followed as soon as we could, safely, from our own shells. A negro servant of an officer was captured near this point, from whom we gained the first information of the arrival of General Sigel's force on the field. This intelligence was at once sent to the rear. The fierce cannonade, probably from the guns of this command, newly arrived, swept the ground immediately in our rear, and compelled us to seek the shelter of a friendly hill, until they had sufficiently amused themselves. The result of our advance was eleven privates, three Lieutenants, and one negro captured from the enemy. My thanks are due to Mr. Thomas Richards, independent scout, and to Lieutenant McCarty, acting adjutant of the regiment, for their activity, zeal, and courage displayed on this occasion.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. E. JONES,  
Colonel seventh Virginia Cavalry.

## REPORT OF MAJOR WOOD.

CAMP NEAR GORDONSVILLE, VA., August 13, 1862.

To Colonel A. G. TALIAFERRO,  
*Commanding Third Brigade:*

In making my report of the part acted by the thirty-seventh regiment in the action on Cedar creek, on the 9th instant, it is necessary for me to state that it was late in the engagement when the command devolved on me, consequently I was not informed as to the position we were to take until after we had gone on the field. Being marched into the woods in rear of our batteries, we were ordered to lie down there to support them. Lying there for some time, very much exposed to the enemy's shells, which were continually bursting over and around us, we were then ordered to the field. Coming into the field, taking position on the left of the twenty-third regiment, (which regiment was on the extreme right of the brigade,) we were marched forward, crossing a small hollow, to the brow of a low eminence, from which position the enemy, in three columns, in battle order, opened fire on us, which was gallantly returned by my men, which continued, the action soon becoming general. In this position, the action continued for some time. The first line of the enemy giving way, the second were thrown into the utmost confusion, when the left of this regiment (being left unprotected and unsupported by the forty-seventh and forty-eighth Alabama regiments having given way, and being thus exposed to a fire in front and rear, and on the left flank) was compelled to give way, which was taken up by each company from the left, not, however, until after we received orders to fall back, which was done in tolerably good order by most of the companies, some, however, becoming a little confused. I soon succeeded in rallying the men, not until a great many of them were killed by being exposed to fire from the front and left flank. As soon as they were rallied, they advanced gallantly to the contest, driving the enemy from before them in every direction. It is proper to state here, that this regiment would have been able to maintain its position had the forty-seventh and forty-eighth Alabama regiments been able to have maintained theirs. I must express my thanks to the officers and men of this regiment for the gallant manner in which they conducted themselves during the whole engagement; and, where all conducted themselves so gallantly, it is impossible to mention particular individuals, although there were those whose gallant conduct render them worthy of the proudest position.

H. C. WOOD,  
*Major commanding 37th Virginia Regiment.*

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL WALTON.

CAMP TWENTY-THIRD VIRGINIA REGIMENT, }  
August 13, 1862. }

Colonel A. G. TALIAFERRO,

*Commanding Third Brigade :*

The twenty-third Virginia regiment left its camp at this place, with the rest of the army, on the evening of the 7th August. It marched about eight miles that night and bivouacked near Orange Court-House. The march was resumed early next morning, but not continued for more than a few miles, when it again halted for the purpose of cooking two days' rations, rest, &c. During the night, a portion of the enemy's cavalry fired upon our pickets and attempted to cut off our train of wagons. Our regiment was ordered to support the pickets, which it did, lying on its arms nearly all night. Some time after midnight our main guard was driven in, and the regiment double-quicked half a mile to meet the enemy. There was a sharp skirmish for a few minutes, and the enemy were routed. We took one prisoner and captured two horses.

During this skirmish, Lieutenant Trice, of company G, was badly wounded in the neck. Lieutenant Winston, of company A, was also wounded.

The army, or at least one portion of it, had a long and distressing march on the 9th, to the field where, on that evening, was fought the battle of Cedar creek—distressing on account of the excessive heat, and scarcity of good water. The brigade reached the battle-field about four o'clock. This regiment, which had been on the left during the day, was detached and sent to the right, where it was ordered to lie down in the woods just in rear of Pegram's battery, for the purpose of supporting it. Here it remained nearly an hour exposed to the shells of the enemy, which were tearing the forest to atoms. The enemy's artillery then ceased to fire, and the regiment was ordered to advance, which it did, through the open field, in line of battle, with the thirty-seventh Virginia on its left. When in four hundred yards of the enemy's line, fire was opened on them and continued for some time, when we were ordered to fall back a short distance (the thirty-seventh having already done so) in order to be out of reach of a cross fire upon our left flank, which was very close and very destructive. It fell back in some confusion. It was during this retreat, and while attempting to stop it, that the lamented Lieutenant Colonel Curtis received his mortal wound.

The regiment again formed, advanced, and continued to advance, successfully repulsing a charge of the enemy's cavalry, taking prisoners of rank, until they were ordered, by General Jackson, to stop the pursuit.

The regiment behaved well, and there were individual instances of great gallantry; but it might be invidious to mention them.

Enclosed please find list of killed and wounded of the regiment in  
the battle of Cedar creek.

Color-sergeant, John P. Waddy, company G; Sergeant William  
A. Walton and Corporal John M. Booker, of company I, behaved  
with great gallantry, and deserve well of their country. Several  
others did their duty as good soldiers.

Respectfully submitted,

S. T. WALTON,  
*Lieutenant Colonel, commanding Regiment.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR WILLIAMS.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH VIRGINIA INFANTRY, }  
August 14, 1862. }

Captain FULTON, A. A. A. G. :

I have the honor to report that, at dawn on the morning of the 9th instant, we left camp, near the Rapidan river, marched a distance of seven miles, and engaged the enemy about four o'clock in the afternoon. The line of battle was formed in a wood, with the thirty-third regiment resting on our right and the second on our left, the fifth being the centre regiment of the brigade. We then advanced in line of battle, through the woods, a distance of about four hundred yards, to the edge of a field, where we were ordered to halt and throw down a line of fencing immediately in our front. After removing the fence, we were ordered to prepare to charge, which was done, and we moved forward in line of battle to the top of a little hill or rise in the field, when the order was given by our gallant commander, Colonel Ronald, to the brigade, to charge, which was obeyed and the charge executed in most elegant style, driving the enemy entirely from the field into the woods, a distance of some three or four hundred yards. I then received an order to close my regiment at right angles with and on the left of the thirty-third, thus having passed the thirty-third and twenty-seventh some two hundred yards. I succeeded in forming my right wing perpendicular with the former line of battle and advanced it about one hundred yards, thus giving me a good position to fire upon the enemy, who were crossing a large wheat-field, upon the right of our former position. The regiment poured a constant and destructive fire upon the enemy, thus causing a large number of them to surrender. The regiment also captured three stand of the enemy's colors. The left wing still held their former position at the edge of the woods, thus protecting the left of my right wing from a severe fire from the enemy in the woods. The conduct of all, officers and men, was such as would attract the admiration and win the praise of the greatest of champion warriors, and particularly the conduct of Color-Sergeant John M. Gabbert, who was in advance, with a sword in one hand and the colors in the other, waving both the sword and colors, and calling upon the men to come on, when he received a wound in the shoulder and leg, which disabled him so much that he was compelled to abandon the field. At a late hour we were reinforced by two other brigades. We then advanced—the left wing being rallied by Adjutant C. S. Arnall, whose conduct was highly commendable in rallying the men to the colors and pressing forward, with the second and fourth regiments, in hot pursuit of the enemy till after dark, when, reaching the top of a hill in a corn-field, he was ordered to halt, and remained until morning. I joined in with Colonel Lee, of the thirty-third, and advanced, overtaking the second and fourth, who had halted in a corn-field, on the right of the

main road leading to Culpeper Court-House, where the brigade remained over-night and until about nine o'clock on the morning of the 10th. The enemy not having made any demonstration up to that time, we were ordered back a distance of about three miles and camped until the morning of the 12th, when we were ordered to take up the line of march to our old camp, near Liberty Mills, at which place we arrived about six o'clock, P. M. I forward with this a list of casualties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. J. WILLIAMS,

*Major commanding Fifth Virginia Infantry.*

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL HUGHES.

HEADQUARTERS FORTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT ALABAMA VOLUNTEERS, }  
August 13, 1862. }

Colonel A. G. TALIAFERRO,

*Commanding Third Brigade, Army of the Valley:*

SIR: I have the honor of submitting the following report of the movements of the forty-eighth regiment Alabama volunteers during the engagement on the 9th instant, at Cedar creek. This regiment, being ordered to support General Ewell's division, was placed in position in the woods and in rear of that division. After remaining in this position for some time, we were ordered to cross the big road, into an open field, and form line of battle on the right of the twenty-third Virginia regiment. A hill lying between us and the enemy, we were ordered to advance to its brow, when, coming in full view of the enemy, we opened fire upon them and continued without cessation for some length of time. Finding the enemy had flanked our position, we were obliged to change, which was readily done. After falling back for a short distance, we again advanced upon the enemy, driving them before us at every point, and continuing to drive them until dark, when we slept upon the battle-field. The officers and men of my command behaved gallantly, it being the first time they had been under fire. There are a few instances of valor which I might notice; but, where all did so nobly and so well, I can but return my sincere thanks to both officers and men. Enclosed please find a report of the casualties in my command, and I remain, sir,

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. HUGHES,

*Lieutenant Colonel commanding Forty-eighth Alabama Regiment.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR STOVER.

CAMP FRESCATTI, August 13, 1862.

Captain COLEMAN,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

In accordance with orders from headquarters of third brigade, I have the honor to submit the following report of the services rendered by the tenth regiment Virginia volunteers, in the third brigade, (army of the Valley,) in the battle of Cedar Run, on the 9th of August, 1862 :

About five o'clock, P. M., Thursday, the 7th instant, this regiment, with the balance of the brigade, and in rear of the brigade, marched in the direction of Orange Court-House. After marching about seven miles, the regiment, with the balance of the brigade, bivouacked near Orange Court-House. On Friday morning, at early dawn, we took up the line of march in the direction of Culpeper Court-House, marching in front of the twenty-third Virginia regiment, which was then in the rear. After marching about five miles and about one mile north of the Rapidan river, we were ordered to halt and cook two days' rations, which consumed the balance of the day. The regiment bivouacked at the same place for the night. About two o'clock in the night we were aroused, our pickets being attacked by the enemy's cavalry, and marched promptly with the balance of the brigade to resist the attack; but the enemy retired before we arrived on the field. We remained on the field until early dawn, when we were marched back to camp. At eight o'clock, on Saturday morning, the 9th inst., we took up the line of march, the thirty-seventh Virginia regiment and forty-eighth Alabama regiment in front, and the twenty-third Virginia and forty-seventh Alabama regiments in the rear. The regiment kept well closed up, and, after marching about seven miles under an excessive hot sun, we arrived, about four o'clock, in sight of the enemy drawn up in line of battle. The brigade was then drawn up in line of battle under a galling fire of shot and shell from the enemy's guns, by which we suffered considerably. This regiment being detached, (by order of Brigadier General Taliaferro, through Major Taliaferro,) to prolong the line of battle on the left, was promptly thrown on the extreme left, on the left of the main road leading to Culpeper Court-House, with the forty-seventh Alabama regiment, the thirty-seventh and twenty-third Virginia and forty-eighth Alabama regiments being on the right of the road near a wheat field, where we immediately engaged the enemy under a heavy fire of infantry. After being engaged some time, the regiment upon my right gave back, and I, seeing that we were about to be flanked by the enemy on our right, was compelled to retire a short distance. We again rallied, attacking the enemy the second time, holding our position until the first brigade coming up on our left, a charge was made through the wheat field, driving the enemy from the field, in which charge a number of prisoners were taken.

The brigade was again formed in line of battle in the wheat field, and marched in an easterly direction some distance, through a corn field, in pursuit of the enemy. Night coming on, we were ordered to halt and await further orders. Subsequently we were ordered to retire to a ravine in the corn field, where we remained during the night, the engagement being at an end.

For a list of casualties, I refer you to the accompanying report of the surgeon.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,  
JOSHUA STOVER,  
*Major commanding Tenth Regiment Virginia Volunteers.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR COURTNAY.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,  
August 15, 1862.

Major General EWELL,

SIR : I beg leave respectfully to make the following report of the operations of the artillery in this division in the fight of the 9th instant, at Mrs Crittenden's farm, near Slaughter's Mountain, Culpeper county, Virginia. The battle was opened by the artillery of this division, which had been posted, as presently described, with orders not to fire till the infantry, sent round to the left to fire upon the enemy's cavalry skirmishers, had opened. Captain Dement's first Maryland battery, Captain Brown's Chesapeake artillery, (also from Maryland,) Captain D'Aquin's Louisiana battery, and the rifle-gun of Captain Latimer's battery, were posted in a line from the main road, on the left, to the mountain on the right, and as far forward as Majors' house. Captain Latimer, with three guns, and Lieutenant Terry, with Captain Jonhson's (Bedford) battery, were stationed, by the Major General in person, on Slaughter's Mountain, near the mountain house. From these positions, the several batteries named opened upon a large body of cavalry in front as soon as the infantry opened upon their advanced guard from the woods on the left. The cavalry having at once fled, and the enemy opening with several batteries in our front and beyond effective range of our guns, I ordered the batteries in the plain to cease firing, and conducted them forward to the positions afterwards taken and held by them till dark. Captain Latimer and Lieutenant Terry continuing their fire from the mountain, I ordered Captain Latimer's rifle piece to join the battery on the mountain, and having three of Captain Brown's guns, (two old 6-pounders and a howitzer,) I carried the rest directly forward, and posted Captain Dement, with two of his Napoleon guns, and Captain Brown, with his three-inch rifle, on a little rise on the right of General Early's brigade, on which there is a little clump of cedars and pines, about six hundred yards from the enemy's extreme right battery. The other section of Captain Dement's battery, (two Napoleons,) and Captain D'Aquin's battery, now having only three guns, (having broken the axle of one in crossing the rough fields to get his position,) I posted along a ridge behind Mrs. Crittenden's house, i. e., between it and the enemy's battery and about eight hundred yards from the battery on their extreme left. From these positions, the batteries opened upon the batteries immediately in their front, as soon as they took their position, and continued till dark, their ammunition, fortunately, lasting just till then. Captain Latimer and Lieutenant Terry kept their position on the mountain during the fight, and kept up a constant fire. Though the effect of our artillery fire upon their batteries was evidently terrible, the enemy obstinately held their position, except to move their pieces a little to the right or left occasionally, to escape the deadly shower, and moving the bat-

tery on their right, back to a knoll three hundred yards in rear, soon after they were opened on by the three guns of Captains Dement and Brown behind the clump of cedars. About sundown, the ammunition being exhausted, the guns which had been in action on the plain, and under my immediate command, were ordered to the rear, and Captain Brown's three guns, and Captain Revera, with two parrot guns, which had been kept out during the day on account of the want of experience of the company, were sent forward to their place; but these did not fire. Captain Latimer and Lieutenant Terry, about the same time (the enemy being drawn back, both infantry and artillery) were ordered forward by the Major General.

As to the conduct of officers and men of those batteries on the plain, to which I confined my attention, I can but speak in the highest terms. The officers and men of Captain Dement's first Maryland battery, the only one which had been in action before, showed more coolness and deliberation; but all, without a single exception, so far as my own knowledge goes or has been reported by company officers, were fired with the ardor of men determined to be free. Of Captain Latimer and Lieutenant Terry and their respective commands, I am not able to speak, but I am informed they were under the eye of the Major General himself for most of the time, and it is not necessary. The Manchester artillery being very thinly manned, was left in the rear. The whole number of guns of this division engaged, was sixteen: of those, six Napoleons, three 6-pounders, three 12-pounder howitzers, and four 3-inch Burton rifles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. R. COURTNAY,  
*Chief Artillery 3rd Division.*

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL GARDNER.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH REGIMENT VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS,  
Camp Garnett, near Gordonsville, Aug. 14, 1862.

Captain JOHN H. FULTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant General*:

SIR: I submit the following report of the part taken by this regiment in the battle of Cedar creek, on the 9th instant:

The regiment, being under my command by reason of Colonel Ronald having been assigned command of the brigade, was formed in line of battle on the extreme left of the brigade, under a heavy fire of the enemy's artillery, in the woods to the left of the old stage road leading from Orange to Culpeper Court-House, at about three hundred yards distant from an open field, where the enemy was first discovered. This regiment advanced, with the balance of the brigade, on the line of the fence of the field and halted, rectified the line, and rested a few minutes, when the enemy made their appearance on the opposite side of the field, directly in front of all the other regiments, except this, which rested on the left and in the woods. The order being given, "Forward," moved in line of battle, with the rest of the brigade, to a point beyond the field, where the enemy had been driven from. I was then ordered to fall back, and take position in the field which was done promptly and in good order, changing front at right-angles with the former front; then marched upon the flank of the enemy, driving them from their position. In doing so, this regiment had to pass through a thick undergrowth and over a fence, and became somewhat scattered. I was then ordered to fall back and reform the regiment, which was executed. The brigade remained in that position until a part of Major General Hill's forces took position on the left of this regiment. The whole line advanced, driving the enemy before them in great confusion, beyond a point where their artillery had been in position, when the line was halted and skirmishers thrown out in advance some two or three hundred yards; remained there a short time and fell back some two hundred yards, where we bivouacked for the night.

While the skirmishers were out, they brought in a number of prisoners, and captured some horses, mules, &c.

I take pleasure in commanding the good order and conduct of the officers and men of this regiment, which was all that I could wish.

I am under obligations to Captain Gibson, of company D, for his services, acting as Major on the day of the engagement, and rendered me good service.

Lieutenant Kent Ewing, acting as adjutant of this regiment, rendered efficient aid by his brave conduct and promptness in carrying out my orders.

The following is the list of casualties:

Company A.—Privates S. S. Rider and E. S. Crockett, killed.

Company C.—Sergeant James P. Kelly, wounded—finger shot off; private Wm. Boyd, wounded—end of thumb shot.

Company D.—Privates J. Farrow, wounded in side; D. S. Allison, wounded in thigh.

Company E.—Private William Richardson, killed.

Company F.—Private George A. Bourne, wounded.

Company G.—Private Lewis Weaver, wounded in ankle.

Lieutenant James P. Charlton, of company G, missing, supposed to have been wounded and taken prisoner.

Respectfully submitted,

R. D. GARDNER,

*Lieut. Colonel, commanding Fourth Regiment Virginia Vols.*

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL BOTTS.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND VIRGINIA REGIMENT, }  
August 13, 1862. }

CAPTAIN: In obedience to order, I have the honor to report that, on Saturday, the 9th, about the hour of five, P. M., the first brigade, of which this (the second regiment of Virginia infantry) is a part, was marched through the woods, near Cedar Run, in Culpeper, in column of regiments, within range of the enemy's artillery; a shell occasionally falling near the brigade. Shortly after, the column was deployed in line of battle just at the skirt of the wood facing a large field and another piece of wood—the division fence being near the centre of the second regiment. By order of Colonel Ronald, commanding, the brigade was moved to the front. Almost immediately afterwards, a regiment of the enemy appeared on the other side of the field. This regiment, though supported by others in the wood, fled after a short resistance, and the second regiment, with the fourth and fifth, drove the enemy through the wood they occupied. Finding no enemy in the front, and that the right wing of the brigade was pressed, the second regiment was ordered to its support, Captain Moore, of company I, being left with a strong company to scout the wood and prevent surprise. Joining the right wing, the enemy was driven again from position, and followed till night rendered pursuit dangerous.

I cannot too highly commend the conduct of the officers and men of my command, and though exposed for some hours to the enemy's fire, providentially no one was killed, and but seven wounded. See list below.

Respectfully,

LAWSON BOTTS,  
*Lieutenant Colonel, commanding.*

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### *List of Wounded.*

D. Shepherd, company I; R. Nichol, company F; J. A. Risccher, M. O'Conner, company E; J. Myers, company A; G. Ashby, company K; P. Gulls, company C. All flesh wounds.

REPORT OF CAPTAIN HORTON OF FORTY-EIGHTH VIRGINIA REGIMENT.

CAMP NEAR LIBERTY MILLS, VIRGINIA, }  
August 13, 1862. }

THOS. R. DUNN,

*Second Lieutenant and A. A. A. General :*

LIEUTENANT: I herewith transmit a report of the part taken by the forty-eighth regiment of the second brigade, commanded by Captain Wm. V. C. Hannum, in the battle of the 9th instant:

My regiment, being the advance of the second brigade, left camp near Rapidan river, about eight o'clock, A. M., and followed the first brigade until about two o'clock, P. M., when it was ordered, with the rest of the brigade, to the front, when we were halted to allow the Hampden artillery, Captain Caskie's battery, to pass to the front, during which time a shell from the enemy's gun, bursting in our ranks, killed five and wounded six men. The order was given to advance, when, leaving the road to the left, we proceeded about a quarter of a mile, under cover of the woods, for the space of half an hour. At the expiration of half an hour, we were again ordered to advance by the flank, a distance of probably a quarter of a mile, where we were thrown into line of battle upon the left of the twenty-first Virginia regiment, which constituted the right of our brigade, the forty-second Virginia regiment upon our left. The regiment at this time, being commanded by Captain Hannum, was, by order of Lieutenant Colonel Garnett, so thrown into line as to cause the right and left flanks to form right angles with each other. Skirmishers were sent to the front with orders to fire as soon as the enemy came within range of their guns. The firing soon began with the skirmishers, which, in a few minutes became general, and lasted for about an hour. Finding that the enemy had got in our rear, almost entirely surrounding us, we were ordered to make our way out, but a portion of the regiment, not understanding the order, remained at their post, continuing to fire at the enemy in front. At this time reinforcements came up, driving the enemy from our rear. Our regiment was partially reformed, and then participated in a charge made across the field, pursuing the enemy until dark.

The casualties were as follows: Four missing, nineteen killed and forty-three wounded.

J. H. HORTON,

*Captain, commanding 48th Regiment Virginia Volunteers.*

REPORT OF CAPTAIN HAYNES OF TWENTY-SEVENTH  
VIRGINIA REGIMENT.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-SEVENTH VIRGINIA REGIMENT,  
Camp near Gordonsville, Va., August 13, 1862. }

Captain J. H. FULTON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant General:*

SIR: I respectfully submit the following as a report of the part my regiment took in the battle of the 9th instant, near Mitchell's Station, in Culpeper county, Virginia:

In placing the brigade in line of battle, my regiment occupied the extreme right, connecting with the line of the second brigade, and supported on the left by the thirty-third Virginia volunteers. After having formed in line of battle, we remained for some time under a heavy fire of shot and shell from the enemy's artillery. I then, under orders, advanced my regiment, in line with the brigade, through a dense forest, with heavy undergrowth of brush, and much fallen timber, to the fence dividing the woodland from a cleared field. Owing to the density of the forest, the enemy who were in line of battle directly in front of us, was not discovered until he fired upon us. I then ordered my regiment to advance to the fence and return the fire; this was promptly done, and was kept up for some time with such effect that two regiments of the enemy, which immediately confronted us, commenced falling back rapidly in much disorder. However, just as we had succeeded in repelling the enemy in front of us, it was discovered that the regiment which supported us on the right had been driven back, and the enemy were rapidly advancing on our right, cross-firing us, and endeavoring to get in our rear. Here the fire was very heavy. I lost three men killed and one wounded, and not having sufficient force to drive back the enemy and hold my position, the regiment was compelled to fall back; this, on account of thick brush and fallen timber that covered the ground, caused the regiment to scatter considerably. After retreating about one hundred and fifty yards we met a brigade (which I took to be Branch's) coming to our support; I fell immediately in rear of this brigade. I attempted to rally my regiment; in this I only partially succeeded. I then proceeded to the main road, leading to the battle-field. Arriving here, just as General Jackson was passing, the detached parts of companies, which I had with me, gave a cheer, and, at the personal order of General Jackson, followed him again to the battle-field. After this, the regiment did not appear as a regiment, but acted in detachments, some connecting themselves with other regiments, others going in with squads from different regiments, and some detailed or ordered back in charge of prisoners which they had assisted in capturing. While every member of the regiment who went into the fight, both officers and men, acted nobly and gallantly, still the conspicuous conduct of some of the officers and men, after the regiment became broken, and

was acting in independent squads, deserves to be particularly noticed. Captain P. F. Frazier, of company E, individually took a Yankee captain, a sergeant, and two privates, while they were retreating from our forces, and delivered them in person, and without any other guard than himself, to General Jackson. Lieutenant A. W. Edgar, of company E, Color-sergeant W. H. Powell, Sergeant C. S. Davis, Dr. J. B. Patton, and Surgeon Stewarts, only two of the party having fire arms, one having the colors, and the lieutenant his sword, at the instance of Lieutenant Colonel Gardner went beyond our lines, after the fight, and captured a Yankee picket, of one sergeant and twelve privates, all of whom were armed when they were captured; they brought them to the fourth Virginia volunteers, and delivered them to the guard. My regiment went into the battle with less than one hundred and thirty men, rank and file.

#### RECAPITULATION OF LOSS OF REGIMENT.

Company E.—Acting Orderly Sergeant John E. Church, killed.  
Company C—Orderly Sergeant Wm. P. Icenhoner, killed.  
Company D—Private Ben Wilson, killed; private Patrick Cavanaugh, wounded slightly.

Three killed and one wounded.

Very respectfully,

C. L. HAYNES,  
*Captain commanding 27th Virginia Regiment.*

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL LEE.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTY-THIRD REGIMENT VA. INFANTRY,  
Camp Garnett, August 13, 1862. }

Captain J. H. FULLER, A. A. A. General :

CAPTAIN : In obedience to orders, just received, I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by me in the action of August 9th, at Cedar Run : On the morning of that day, at sunrise, the brigade left the bivouac about a mile from the bank of the Rapidan river, and marched, with many interruptions, some six or seven miles on the road to Culpeper Court-House. About mid-day, we were halted in a wood on the left of the road, while a light cannonade was going on some distance in front. After remaining quiet about an hour and a half, we were again moved forward, perhaps a mile or two, and halted in another wood, from which we moved about four, P. M., in the direction of the enemy, keeping the woods, by order, to avoid raising the dust. The cannonade had become quite brisk, and when the ground in which we subsequently fought was reached, the brigade was halted, ordered to load, and form in line of battle, my regiment being next to the twenty-seventh Virginia, which occupied the right. In this order we were moved forward a short distance, and then formed in columns of regiments, right in front, still marching. In a short time, this column was deployed upon the leading regiment, and a halt ordered at a fence directly in front of us, which, by order of the Colonel commanding, was leveled. Here we lay for some twenty minutes, under a very sharp fire of shell and spherical case, which fortunately occasioned me no casualties. At the end of this time, the brigade was again moved forward, in line of battle, over a stubble-field, flanked on either side by woods ; the left wing of my regiment was in the field, the right in the woods, and the twenty-seventh entirely in the woods on my right. After having advanced about a hundred and twenty-five yards, the command was given to charge, when the whole line moved at a double-quick, the Colonel commanding leading in person. Almost simultaneously with this movement, a few shots from our left drew the fire from the line of the enemy, who were well posted in a woods about two hundred and fifty yards off, and who, being able to see only a part of our force on account of a slight hill over which the fifth, thirty-third and twenty-seventh had to pass, had also commenced to advance. Here, for the first time, I discovered the Federals in sight, and giving the command to my men, they poured a steady fire from the left wing into the enemy's ranks. My horse becoming unmanageable, I dismounted, and, in common with other regimental commanders, urged the men forward. Our line steadily advanced, slowly driving our opponents, until I reached the corner of the woods on my right, where the right of my regiment, and the whole of the twenty-seventh came into view of the enemy. The firing was now general, but in front of me the enemy for some time were quite steady, and commenced to flank my

right, getting upon that flank in the woods, within forty steps of company A. I sent the adjutant to see if the twenty seventh was aware of this movement, and to urge their active assistance. He reported that the twenty-seventh was not there, and I then directed the fire of the three right companies, A, F and D, against the flankers, whose shots already enfiladed us. In a few moments the ground was dotted with their blue uniforms, and the rest retreated more rapidly than they advanced. I now observed the fine effect of the fire in front, and pushed the men forward ; I had previously informed Colonel Ronald of the attempted flank movement, and almost immediately received a message by his orderly, that a brigade of General A. P. Hill's division would come up in a few moments. I had continued to press the men on, driving the enemy, and as their retreat became a run, General Branch's brigade arrived upon the extension of my line. They fired a few rounds, and then ceased for a time, and pushed on after the now flying enemy. My men being thoroughly exhausted, together with myself, the firing having ceased entirely upon this part of the field, and no enemy being in sight, I withdrew, about one hundred yards, and collected the men, who had become somewhat scattered in the eagerness of the fight. There gathered with me considerable parts of the other regiments, and, having about half the brigade, and being the senior officer present, I took command, and conducted them, some half a mile further on, to the Colonel commanding, who had halted on a hill in front, and upon the right of our position, with the remainder. We were engaged from about five, P. M. until dark, and the men consumed nearly every cartridge. Their aim was steady, and their fire effective, inflicting, under my own eye, severe loss on the enemy.

My casualties, considering the continued and heavy fire to which we were subjected, were almost miraculously few, being only fifteen wounded.

The men captured a number of prisoners, and one of them, by my directions, killed a color-bearer, whose colors were left on the field, and picked up by one of General Branch's men subsequently.

My number engaged was one hundred and fifty. I left camp with one hundred and sixty, the heat causing a few to fall out of the ranks. I append a list of casualties.

It is with feelings of the highest pride that I commend the courage of both officers and men ; all bore themselves nobly, and I can scarcely express my gratification at their behavior throughout the day. Nor can I mention for special commendation the name of one, either officer or private, without seeming to detract from the merits of others ; but I must avail myself of the opportunity to acknowledge my indebtedness to First Lieutenant D. H. Walton, adjutant of the regiment, and to express my high appreciation of his conspicuously gallant conduct. Having no field officer with me, (Major Holliday having been detailed for staff duty by Colonel Ronald,) I felt the need of efficient help, and the want was fully supplied by this gentleman. He executed my orders fearlessly and well ; aided me in directing the fire and movements of the men, and, by personal example,

cheered and encoured them. I gladly commend him to the notice of the commanding General.

The noble courage of Major Holliday, who lost his right arm, will more properly come under the report of the brigade commander.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWIN G. LEE,

*Lieut. Colonel, commanding 33d Va. Infantry.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL J. A. WALKER.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH VIRGINIA, }  
August 14, 1862. }

Major HALL, *A. A. General, Fourth Brigade:*

I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my regiment at the battle near Mitchell's Station on the 9th instant.

After deploying regiment as skirmishers, as directed by the General commanding the brigade, we advanced into the woods, between us and the enemy, about two hundred yards, where the left wing, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Terrill, encountered the enemy's cavalry, consisting of a small squadron of two or three companies, that attempted to charge the line, but were driven back, with a known loss of two men and one horse killed. Further on in the woods, the right wing came in sight of their videttes, who retired, firing at a safe distance, until they fell back to their main body, drawn up in the field beyond. When we reached the edge of the wood, I halted the line and opened fire upon the main body of their cavalry in the field, and kept it up until the rest of the brigade came up, but the distance was too great to do much execution. When the rest of the brigade came up, I was ordered to close my regiment and form on its left, which I did and held that position, whilst it lay behind our batteries, under fire of the enemy's artillery; and advanced with it and the third brigade, (immediately on my left,) when ordered forward, to the crest of the hill, and opened fire upon the enemy's line, advancing through the corn-field, beyond the branch. At this point the fighting was obstinate for several minutes, the enemy advancing slowly, but steadily, until the brigade upon my left gave way and ran off the field in disorder. The panic, thus begun, was communicated to two or three regiments on my right, which also fell back, leaving my regiment and a portion of the thirty-first Virginia, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Jackson, the only Confederate troops in that part of the field in sight of our position. Finding that one piece of artillery, which had been brought up on the right, and a little in advance of my regiment, was thus placed in great jeopardy, I ordered my own and Lieutenant Colonel Jackson's men forward to hold the enemy in check until it could be carried off. The men obeyed with alacrity, and, advancing about thirty yards, opened a well-directed fire, which had the desired effect of checking the advance of that portion of the enemy's line, directly in our front, till the piece was removed. We continued to hold our position for a few moments, holding the enemy in front in check, when, finding the enemy had advanced, under cover of the woods on our left, over the ground abandoned by the third brigade, and had crossed the road into the field considerably in rear of our position, and were pouring a very annoying fire into my left flank, and seeing no reinforcements in sight, I ordered my regiment to fall back, and carried it off obliquely

to the right and rear, in tolerable order. We had no sooner given up our position than the enemy, following, planted a Federal and a Maryland flag where ours stood a moment before, and opened fire upon us at very short range. We continued to fall back for about two hundred yards, when fresh troops coming up on our left, and the enemy beginning to give back on that flank, I immediately halted my men and, reforming them upon the colors, advanced directly back to our former position, driving the two stands of colors before us.

At this time the enemy brought up a fresh line through the corn-field, and for ten minutes the firing was heavy and both sides stood firm, when the enemy began to give way along the whole line, and our troops, dashing forward with a shout, crossed the branch and cleared the field of their infantry. The enemy's cavalry attempted to retrieve the fortunes of the day by charging our advancing and disordered lines, and dashed down the wheat-field, on the left of the road, in gallant style. As their column was advancing on my left, with the main road between us, I advanced my men to the left and front, up to the fence along the road, at double-quick, and gave them a flank fire, which, together with the heavy fire from other regiments immediately in their front, was very destructive and drove them from the field in confusion and disorder. After this charge, the enemy made no further stand, and we continued the pursuit, with the other troops, until it was discontinued, when I left them in charge of Lieutenant Colonel Terrill and reported to the General commanding brigade. It would be impossible for troops to behave better than mine did on this day. With a few exceptions, they fought bravely, obeying all the commands of their officers promptly and cheerfully, displaying, throughout the whole day, an amount of bravery and disciplined valor, which I don't believe has been excelled during the war. I herewith enclose a report of the casualties on that day.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

J. A. WALKER,  
*Colonel Thirteenth Virginia Infantry.*

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL R. L. WALKER.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY BATTALION, }  
March, 1863. }

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the artillery of the light division in the battle of Cedar Run, August 9th, 1862:

At about three o'clock, P. M., all my batteries being in park near the house of —, I received an order from Major General A. P. Hill to carry forward all my long-range guns, which order I immediately obeyed, but was unable to get more than two of my batteries in position, as the road was so blocked up with wagons and ambulances as to prevent any more artillery from reaching the front. The two batteries placed in position were those of Captains Pegram and Fleet. I posted them in position on the field and near the centre, passing through the gate at which I found Captain Caskie's battery, which had converged the fire of the enemy to a point necessary to be passed by all of our troops. Captain Pegram's battery, and Captain Fleet's battery, the latter commanded by Lieutenant B. W. Hardy, were posted, as stated, about near the centre of the field and within one hundred and fifty yards of the enemy's skirmishers, Lieutenant Hardy being in front.

These batteries were supported by the brigade of Brigadier General Early, and held their position for at least half an hour, and after the infantry, with the exception of the thirteenth Virginia regiment, had fallen back from them. So soon as I saw the light division make its appearance, I ordered the batteries to retire, the loss in both men and horses being considerable.

Reports of these losses have already been made to the proper officers.

I moved forward as soon as possible, with all the artillery at my command, and, by General Hill's order, brought the batteries of Captains Pegram, Braxton, Latham, and a part of Captain Fleet's battery, to bear upon the point supposed to be occupied by the enemy's. At ten o'clock that night, after firing about eight rounds from each gun, Captain Pegram was sent forward with Colonel Stafford's brigade, and had, for an hour or more, a severe fight with the enemy, losing several men and horses and inflicting considerable loss upon the enemy. Next morning at daylight, I was ordered by General Hill to select a position much to our left and on the south side of the creek, which I did, placing two batteries of mine, viz: Captains Fleet's and Donelson's and one of General Early's. This position commanded the enemy's camp somewhat to their rear. Captains Pegram and Hardy inflicted great loss on the enemy on Saturday evening, and their conduct, with that of the men under their command, cannot be too highly commended. The batteries of my command cannot be too highly commended. The batteries of my command were

all retired on Sunday evening, Captain Braxton bringing up the rear and retiring by half battery.

I have the honor to remain, Major, your ob't serv't.

R. L. WALKER,  
*Lieut. Colonel commanding Artillery Division.*

## REPORT OF CAPTAIN POAGUE.

CAMP NEAR GORDONSVILLE, VIRGINIA, }  
August 14, 1862. }

Captain J. H. FULTON,

*A. A. A. General, First Brigade, V. D. :*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the battery under my command in the battle of the 9th instant, at Cedar Run:

About five o'clock, P. M., by order of Major Andrews, two parrott guns were taken to the front, along the road leading to Culpeper Court-House. These, along with Captain Carpenter's parrott piece, were, by direction of Major Andrews, posted in the road so as to enfilade the enemy's batteries then engaging our batteries on the right. The caissons were left behind some distance, there not being room to station them in rear of their pieces. After firing about half an hour, one of my pieces becoming unserviceable from enlargement of the vent, was sent to the rear. The other continued its fire until the enemy's skirmishers approached within two hundred yards, and, having exhausted the ammunition in the limber chest, it was ordered back to its caisson and the chest refilled. By the direction of General Jackson, it was afterwards posted in the field on the right of the road. My twelve-pounder was also brought forward. In conjunction with Captain Carpenter's gun and one of Lieutenant Mark's, a rapid fire was opened on the enemy's battery, by which several of their guns were silenced and compelled to leave the field. The enemy's infantry were now advancing through the corn-field in front, and I felt confident we could be able to drive them back, having been reinforced by a battery of four guns. At this juncture our own infantry advanced, surrounding the guns, and thus causing them to cease firing. No position could be gotten afterwards without danger to our own infantry.

About nine o'clock, P. M., the battery joined the brigade, and that night slept on the battle-field.

In this engagement, I am happy to report no serious casualties—only one man wounded—Robert Vanpelt, slightly in left arm. Several others received very slight bruises from pieces of shell.

It gives me pleasure to state that the conduct of all the men and officers, without exception, was most admirable. At the most trying moment, when our gallant and esteemed brigade commander, and the chief of artillery were cut down in their midst, they retained their accustomed self-possession, and nobly stood by their pieces. Even those two or three who, in a former engagement, behaved in an unsoldierly manner, now acted well and bravely, as if determined to wipe out all traces of their previous conduct.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. T. POAGUE,  
*Captain Rockbridge Artillery.*

## REPORT OF CAPTAIN D'AQUIN.

CAMP WHEAT, August 14, 1862.

The following is a report of the behavior of the officers and men of the Louisiana Guard artillery in the engagement of the 9th instant:

The behavior of both officers and men of this command in the battle of the 9th, was such as might be expected of men fighting for their homes and liberties. It would be doing injustice to the others to mention any one for better behavior. All seemed to have always been under fire; they behaved like veterans, although this was their first engagement. Besides, there was no opportunity for individual distinction. There were none absent without leave, nor could I have made them leave, even if I had ordered it.

L. E. D'AQUIN, *Captain.*

## REPORT OF CAPTAIN CARPENTER.

HEADQUARTERS CARPENTER'S BATTERY,  
In Camp near Gordonsville, August 14, 1862. }

To Colonel RONALD,

*Commanding First Brigade, V. D.:*

SIR: In obedience to circular issued from headquarters Valley District, on the 13th instant, I have to make the following report of the part taken by this battery in the action of Cedar Run, on the 9th day of August, 1862. I received orders early in the afternoon to take my Parrott piece to the front, which was promptly executed, placing it in position within seven hundred yards of five or six pieces of the enemy. Major Andrews, thinking it would be rather an unequal contest, ordered me not to commence firing until Captain Poague could bring his in position, when we commenced firing, which was soon returned most vigorously; but a short time sufficed to force them back some three hundred yards, when we advanced about half that distance, where we kept up firing until their infantry, who attempted to flank us, were within one hundred and fifty or two hundred yards of us, and our infantry falling back past us. Moving to the right some two hundred yards, came into position again. The infantry still falling back, I again limbered up, and, from carelessness of the drivers, broke the pole, when with difficulty got the piece off, leaving the limber on the field, which I had repaired as soon as the Yankees were driven back, being ready for service by nine o'clock. The other three pieces were brought up under range of the enemy's guns, but not ordered into position. The detachment which was engaged deserves particular notice as having done their duty. Some two or three of them having exhausted themselves so, felt unable to do anything. Sending word back to the Captain, he started to bring me a new detachment, when he was wounded in the forehead. W. M. McAllister, (private,) shot through the arm, the only man wounded. I also have to report private William J. Winn as having left the company that morning without leave, and not being seen till the next day, which he has been in the habit of doing.

J. C. CARPENTER,  
*Lieutenant commanding Battery.*

# SUMMER CAMPAIGN OF 1862.

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FROM THE BATTLE OF CEDAR RUN TO, AND INCLUDING, THE BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

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## REPORT OF GENERAL LONGSTREET.

HEADQUARTERS NEAR WINCHESTER, V.A., }  
October 10, 1862. }

Brigadier General R. H. CHILTON,  
*Adjutant and Inspector General :*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my command in the late campaign:

In obedience to the orders of the commanding General, the command marched from Gordonsville on the 16th August, crossing the Rapidan on the 20th, at Raccoon ford.

The next day, at Kelly's ford, I received orders to move up the Rappahannock to Rappahannock Station. As we were withdrawing from Kelly's ford, the enemy crossed the river and made an attack upon the rear brigade, (Featherston's,) under the command of Colonel Posey. After a sharp skirmish, Colonel Posey drove him back with considerable loss.

Arriving at Rappahannock Station, General Hood with his own and Whiting's brigade was detached to relieve a portion of General Jackson's command at Freeman's ford. About the moment that General Hood reached this ford, the enemy crossed in considerable force, and made an attack upon the commands of Brigadier Generals Trimble and Hood. They however drove him back across the river in much confusion and with heavy loss. Meanwhile I had ordered Colonel Walton to place his batteries in position at Rappahannock Station, and to drive the enemy from his positions on both sides of the river.

The batteries were opened at sunrise on the 23rd, and a severe cannonade continued for several hours. In about two hours, however, the enemy was driven across the river, abandoning his tête-de-pont. The brigades of Brigadier Generals Evans and D. R. Jones, the latter

under Colonel G. T. Anderson, moved forward to occupy this position. It was found untenable, however, being exposed to a cross fire of artillery from the other bank. The troops were therefore partially withdrawn, and Colonel S. D. Lee was ordered to select positions for his batteries, and joined in the combat. The enemy's position was soon rendered too warm for him, and he took advantage of a severe rain storm to retreat in haste, after firing the bridge and the private dwellings in its vicinity. Colonel Walton deserves much credit for skill in the management of his batteries, and Colonel Lee got into position in time for some good practice.

The next day, August 24th, the command, continuing the march up the Rappahannock, crossed Hazel river and bivouacked at Jeffersonton.

On the 25th, we relieved a portion of General Jackson's command at Waterloo bridge. There was more or less skirmishing at this point until the afternoon of the 26th, when the march was resumed, crossing the Rappahannock at Hinson's Mill ford, six miles above Waterloo. A dash of several squadrons of Federal cavalry into Salem in front of us on the 27th, delayed our march about an hour. Not having cavalry, I was unable to ascertain the meaning of this movement, hence the delay. This cavalry retired, and the march was resumed, resting for the night at White Plains. The head of my column reached Thoroughfare Gap about three o'clock, P. M. On the 28th, a small party of infantry was sent into the mountains to reconnoitre. Passing through the Gap, Colonel Beck, of the ninth Georgia regiment, met the enemy; but was obliged to retire before a greatly superior force. The enemy held a strong position on the opposite gorge, and succeeded in getting his sharpshooters in position on the mountain. Brigadier General D. R. Jones advanced two of his brigades rapidly, and soon drove the enemy from his position on the mountain. Brigadier General Hood, with his own and General Whiting's brigade, was ordered, by a footpath over the mountain, to turn the enemy's right, and Brigadier General Wilcox with his own and Brigadier Generals Featherston's and Pryor's brigades, was ordered through Hopewell Gap, three miles to our left, to turn the right and attack the enemy in rear. The enemy made his attack upon Jones, however, before these troops could get into their position, and, after being repulsed with severe loss, commenced his retreat just before night. In this affair, the conduct of the first Georgia regulars, under Major Walker, was dashing and gallant.

Early on the 29th, the columns were united, and the advance, to join General Jackson, was resumed. The noise of battle was heard before we reached Gainesville. The march was quickened to the extent of our capacity. The excitement of battle seemed to give new life and strength to our jaded men, and the head of my column soon reached a position in rear of the enemy's left flank, and within easy cannon shot. On approaching the field, some of Brigadier General Hood's batteries were ordered into position, and his division was deployed on the right and left of the turnpike, at right-angles with it, and supported by Brigadier General Evans' brigade. Before these

batteries could open, the enemy discovered our movements and withdrew his left. Another battery (Captain Stribling's) was placed upon a commanding position to my right, which played upon the rear of the enemy's left and drove him entirely from that part of the field. He changed his front rapidly so as to meet the advance of Hood and Evans.

Three brigades, under General Wilcox, were thrown forward to the support of the left, and three others, under General Kemper, to the support of the right of these commands. General D. R. Jones' division was placed upon the Manassas Gap railroad, to the right and in echelon with regard to the three last brigades. Colonel Walton placed his batteries in a commanding position between my line and that of General Jackson, and engaged the enemy for several hours, in a severe and successful artillery duel. At a late hour in the day, Major General Stuart reported the approach of the enemy in heavy columns against my extreme right. I withdrew General Wilcox, with his three brigades, from the left and placed his command in position to support Jones in case of an attack against my right. After some few shots, the enemy withdrew his forces, moving them around towards his front, and about four o'clock in the afternoon, began to press forward against General Jackson's position. Wilcox's brigades were moved back to their former position, and Hood's two brigades, supported by Evans, were quickly pressed forward to the attack. At the same time Wilcox's three brigades made a like advance, as also Hunter's brigade, of Kemper's command.

These movements were executed with commendable zeal and ability. Hood, supported by Evans, made a gallant attack, driving the enemy back till nine o'clock at night. One piece of artillery, several regimental standards, and a number of prisoners were taken. The enemy's entire force was found to be massed directly in my front, and in so strong a position that it was not deemed advisable to move on against his immediate front, so the troops were quietly withdrawn at one o'clock the following morning. The wheels of the captured piece were cut down and it was left on the ground. The enemy seized that opportunity to claim a victory, and the Federal commander was so impudent as to despatch his Government, by telegraph, tidings to that effect. After withdrawing from the attack, my troops were placed in the line first occupied and in the original order.

During the day, Colonel S. D. Lee, with his reserve artillery, placed in the position occupied the day previous by Colonel Walton and engaged the enemy in a very severe artillery combat. The result was, as the day previous, a success. At half-past three o'clock in the afternoon, I rode to the front for the purpose of completing arrangements for making a diversion in favor of a flank movement, then under contemplation. Just after reaching my front line, I received a message for reinforcements for General Jackson, who was said to be severely pressed. From an eminence near by, one portion of the enemy's masses attacking General Jackson were immediately within my view and in easy range of batteries in that position. It gave me an advantage that I had not expected to have, and I made haste to

use it. Two batteries were ordered for the purpose and one placed in position immediately and opened. Just as this fire began, I received a message from the commanding General, informing me of General Jackson's condition and his wants. As it was evident that the attack against General Jackson could not be continued ten minutes under the fire of these batteries, I made no movement with my troops. Before the second battery could be placed in position, the enemy began to retire, and in less than ten minutes the ranks were broken and that portion of his army put to flight. A fair opportunity was offered me and the intended diversion was changed into an attack. My whole line was rushed forward at a charge. The troops sprang to their work, and moved forward with all the steadiness and firmness that characterise war-worn veterans. The batteries continuing their play upon the confused masses, completed the work of this portion of the enemy's line, and my attack was, therefore, made against the forces in my front. The order for the advance had scarcely been given, when I received a message from the commanding General, anticipating some such emergency, and ordering the move which was then going on, at the same time offering me Major General Anderson's division. The commanding General soon joined me and a few moments after, Major General Anderson arrived with his division. The attack was led by Hood's brigade, closely supported by Evans. These were rapidly reinforced by Anderson's division from the rear, Kemper's three brigades and D. R. Jones' division from the right, and Wilcox's brigade from the left. The brigades of Brigadier Generals Featherston and Pryor became detached and operated with a portion of General Jackson's command. The attacking columns moved steadily forward, driving the enemy from his different positions as rapidly as he took them. My batteries were thrown forward from point to point, following the movements of the general line. These, however, were somewhat detained by an enfilade fire from a battery on my left. This threw more than its proper share of fighting upon the infantry, retarded our rapid progress, and enabled the enemy to escape with many of his batteries, which should have fallen into our hands. The battle continued until ten o'clock at night, when utter darkness put a stop to our progress. The enemy made his escape across Bull Run before daylight. Three batteries, a large number of prisoners, many stands of regimental colors, and twelve thousand stands of arm, besides some wagons, ambulances, &c., were taken.

The next day, like the day after the first battle of Manassas plains, was stormy and excessively disagreeable. Orders were given early in the day for caring for the wounded, burying the dead, and collecting arms and other supplies.

About noon, General Pryor, with his brigade, was thrown across Bull Run to occupy the heights between that and Cub Run, and at two o'clock in the afternoon, the balance of the command marched to cross Bull Run at Sudley ford. Crossing the run on the following day, the command marched for Chantilly, via the Little River turnpike. The enemy was reported in position in our front as we reached Chantilly, and he made an attack upon General Jackson before my

troops arrived. He was repulsed, however, before my reinforcements got up and disappeared during the night.

On the second of September, the command marched via Drainsville, Leesburg, and across the Potomac, at White's ford, to Frederick City, Maryland, arriving there on the 7th. I moved from Frederick for Hagerstown on the 10th and reached there, with part of my command on the 11th, sending six brigades, under Major General Anderson, to co-operate with Major General McLaws in the assault upon Maryland Heights and Harper's Ferry. During the operations against this garrison the approach of a large army from Washington city for its relief was reported. We were obliged to make a forced march in order to reach Boonsboro' Pass to assist Major General D. H. Hill's division in holding this army in check, so as to give time for the reduction of Harper's Ferry. I reached Boonsboro about three o'clock in the afternoon, and, upon ascending the mountain, found General Hill heavily engaged. My troops were hurried to his assistance as rapidly as their exhausted condition would admit of. The brigades of Brigadier Generals Evans, Pickett, (under Garnett,) Kemper, and Jenkins, (under Colonel Walker,) were extended along the mountain to our left. Brigadier General Hood, with his own and Whiting's brigade, (under Colonel Law,) Drayton's and D. R. Jones', (under Colonel G. T. Anderson,) were extended to the right. Major General Hill had already placed such batteries in position as he could find ground for, except one position on the extreme left. It was my intention to have placed a battery in this position, but I was so much occupied in front, that I could find no time to do so before nightfall.

We succeeded in repulsing the repeated and powerful attacks of the enemy, and in holding our position till night put an end to the battle. It was short, but very fierce. Some of our most gallant officers and men fell in this struggle, among them the brave Colonel J. B. Strange, of the nineteenth Virginia regiment.

Had the command reached the mountain pass in time to have gotten into position before the attack was made, I believe that the direct assaults of the enemy could have been repulsed with comparative ease. Hurried into action, however, we arrived at our position more exhausted than the enemy. It became manifest that our forces were not sufficient to resist the renewed attacks of the entire army of General McClellan. He would require but little time to turn either flank and our command must then be at his mercy. In view of this, the commanding General ordered the withdrawal of our troops to the village of Sharpsburg. This position was regarded as a strong defensive one, besides being one from which we could threaten the enemy's flank or rear, in case he should attempt to relieve the garrison at Harper's Ferry.

Crossing the Antietam, on the morning of the 15th, Major General D. H. Hill's division and my own command, were placed in line of battle between the stream and the village of Sharpsburg. Soon after getting into position we heard of the surrender of Harper's Ferry. This left the portions of the army engaged in the reduction of that garrison free to join us. After much shelling at one point and another of our line, which extended more than a mile on each side of Sharps-

burg, the enemy finally attacked General Hood, on my extreme left, late Tuesday evening, September 16th. Hood drove him back, but not without severe loss, including that of Colonel Liddell, of the eleventh Mississippi, an officer of great merit, modesty and promise. During the night, the enemy threw his forces across the Antietam, in front of Hood's position, and renewed his attack at daylight the next morning. Hood was not strong enough to resist the masses thrown against him. Several of Major General D. H. Hill's brigades reinforced the position, but even with these, our forces seemed but a handful when compared with the hosts thrown against us. The commands engaged the enemy, however, with great courage and determination, and, retiring very slowly, delayed him until the forces of Generals Jackson and Walker came to our relief. D. R. Jones' brigade, under Colonel G. T. Anderson came up about the same moment, and soon after this, the divisions of Major Generals McLaws and R. H. Anderson. Colonel S. D. Lee's reserve artillery was with General Hood, and took a distinguished part in the attack on the evening of the 16th, and in delaying that of the 17th. General Jackson soon moved off to our left, for the purpose of turning the enemy's right flank, and the other divisions, except Walker's, were distributed at other points of the line. As these movements were made, the enemy again threw forward his masses against my left. This attack was met by Walker's division, two pieces of Captain Miller's battery of the Washington artillery, and two pieces of Captain Bryce's battery, and was driven back in some confusion. An effort was made to pursue; but our line was too weak. Colonel Cooke, of the twenty-seventh North Carolina, very gallantly charged with his own regiment; but, his supply of ammunition being exhausted, and he being unsupported, he was obliged to return to his original position in the line.

From this moment our centre was extremely weak, being defended by but part of Walker's division, and four pieces of artillery, Cooke's regiment of that division being without a cartridge. In this condition, again the enemy's masses moved forward against us. Cooke stood with his empty guns, and waved his colors to show that his troops were in position. The artillery played upon their ranks with canister. Their lines began to hesitate, soon halted, and, after an hour and a half, retired.

Another attack was quickly made, a little to the right of the last. Captain Miller turning his pieces upon these lines, and playing upon them with round shot, (over the heads of R. H. Anderson's men,) checked the advance, and Anderson's division, with the artillery, held the enemy in check until night. This attack was followed by the final assault, about four o'clock, P. M., when the enemy crossed the bridge in front of Sharpsburg, and made his desperate attack upon my right. Brigadier General Toombs held the bridge, and defended it most gallantly, driving back repeated attacks, and only yielded it after the forces brought against him became overwhelming and threatened his flank and rear.

The enemy was then met by Brigadier General D. R. Jones with six brigades. He drove back our right several times, and was him-

self made to retire several times, badly crippled; but his strong reinforcements finally enabled him to drive in my right, and occupy this part of my ground. Thus advanced, the enemy's line was placed in such a position as to enable General Toombs to move his brigade directly against his flank. General Jones seized the opportunity, and threw Toombs down against the enemy's flank, drove him back and recovered our lost ground.

Two of the brigades of Major General A. P. Hill's division advanced against the enemy's front as General Toombs made his flank attack.

The display of this force was of great value, and it assisted us in holding our position.

The enemy took shelter behind a stone wall, and another line was advanced to the crest of a hill, in support of his first line.

Captain Richardson's, Brown's and Moody's batteries were placed in position to play upon the second line, and both lines were eventually driven back by these batteries. Before it was entirely dark, the hundred thousand men that had been threatening our destruction for twelve hours, had melted away into a few stragglers.

The battle over, orders were sent around for ammunition chests and cartridge boxes to be re-filled. Early on the morning of the 18th, a few sharpshooters began to exchange shots. I observed that the enemy had massed his artillery on the opposite side of the Antietam, with a view, apparently, to meet an attack from us. Our ranks were too much thinned to warrant a renewal of the conflict, with the chances of being drawn under the fire of this artillery. The effort to make a flank movement by our left, the day previous, developed the fact that the enemy had extended his right, so as to rest it upon the Potomac, and thus envelope our left flank. From our position, it was impossible to make any move, except a direct assault upon some portion of the enemy's line, I, therefore, took the liberty to address a note to the commanding General, about two o'clock in the afternoon, suggesting a withdrawal to the south side of the Potomac. Before my note reached him, however, he rode to my bivouac and expressed the same views. Arrangements to move across the Potomac were completed by dark. My command, moving first, crossed about two o'clock in the morning, and part of it was placed in position, in case it should be needed at the ford. The entire army crossed, however, without molestation, and, as directed by the commanding General, I proceeded to form his line. As this was completed, it became evident that the enemy was not pursuing, except with some of his batteries and some small force. The various commands were then marched off to their points of bivouac.

The name of every officer, non-commissioned officer and private, who has shared in the toils and privations of this campaign, should be mentioned.

In one month, these troops had marched over two hundred miles, upon little more than half rations, and fought nine battles and skirmishes, killed, wounded and captured nearly as many men as we had in our ranks, besides taking arms and other munitions of war in larg

quantities. I would that I could do justice to all of these gallant officers and men in this report. As that is impossible, I shall only mention those most prominently distinguished. These were Major General R. H. Anderson, on the plains of Manassas, at Harper's Ferry and at Sharpsburg, where he was wounded severely. Brigadier General D. R. Jones, at Thoroughfare Gap, Manassas plains, Boonsboro' and Sharpsburg. Brigadier General R. Toombs, at Manassas plains, in his gallant defence of the bridge at Antietam, and in his vigorous charge against the enemy's flank. He was severely wounded at the close of the engagement. Brigadier General Wilcox, at Manassas plains, on the 29th and 30th of August, afterwards absent sick. Brigadier General Garnett, at Boonsboro' and Sharpsburg. Brigadier General Evans, on the plains at Manassas, both on the 29th and 30th of August, and at Sharpsburg. Brigadier General Kemper, at Manassas plains, Boonsboro' and Sharpsburg. Brigadier General Hood and Colonels Law and Wofford, at Manassas plains, and on the 29th and 30th of August, Boonsboro' and at Sharpsburg, on the 16th and 17th. Colonel G. T. Anderson, commanding D. R. Jones' brigade, at Thoroughfare Gap, Manassas plains, Boonsboro' and Sharpsburg. Brigadier General Mahone, at Manassas plains, where he received a severe wound. Brigadier General R. A. Pryor, at Sharpsburg. Brigadier General Jenkins, at Manassas plains, on the 29th and 30th of August; on the last day severely wounded Colonels Hunton, Corse, Stuart, Stevens, Hately, (severely wounded,) and Walker, (commanding Jenkins' brigade, after the latter was wounded,) at Manassas plains, Boonsboro' and Sharpsburg. Colonel Posey, at Manassas plains and Sharpsburg, where he commanded Featherston's brigade. Colonel Benning, at Manassas plains and Sharpsburg. At Sharpsburg, Captain Miller, of the Washington artillery, was particularly distinguished. Colonel Walton, of the Washington artillery, at Rappahannock Station, Manassas plains (August 29th) and Sharpsburg. And Major Garnett, at Rappahannock Station. Lieutenant Colonels Skinner and Marye, at Manassas plains, where they were both severely wounded. Major Walker, at Thoroughfare Gap and Manassas plains. In the latter engagement, this gallant officer was mortally wounded.

It is with no common feeling that I recount the loss, at Manassas plains, of Colonels Gadberry, eighteenth South Carolina, Means, seventeenth South Carolina, Moore, second South Carolina, Glover, first South Carolina, Nelson, seventh Georgia, and Lieutenant Colonel Upton, fifth Texas. At Boonsboro, Colonel J. B. Strange, nineteenth Virginia volunteers, and Lieutenant Colonel McLemore, fourth Alabama, and, at Sharpsburg, Colonel Liddell, eleventh Mississippi. Lieutenant Colonel Coppens and Lieutenant Colonel Holmes, second Georgia volunteers. These valuable and gallant officers fell in the unflinching performance of their duty, bravely and successfully heading their commands in the thickest of the fight.

To my staff officers, Major G. M. Sorrell, Assistant Adjutant General, who was wounded at Sharpsburg, Lieutenant Colonel P. T. Manning, Chief of Ordnance, Major J. W. Fairfax, Major Thomas Walton,

who was also wounded at Sharpsburg, Captain Thomas Goree and Lieutenant R. W. Blackwell, I am under renewed and lasting obligations. These officers, full of courage, intelligence, patience and experience, were able to give directions to commands such as they thought proper, which were at once approved, and commanded my admiration. Lieutenant Colonel Blunt volunteered his services to me at Boonsboro', and was, both there and at Sharpsburg, of material service to me. The medical department, in charge of Surgeon Cullen, were active and unremitting in the care of the wounded, and have my thanks for their humane efforts.

My party of couriers were zealous, active and brave. They are justly entitled to praise for the manly fortitude and courageous conduct shown by them in the trying scenes of the campaign. The cavalry escort, commanded by Captain Doby, have my thanks for meritorious conduct and valuable aid. Captain Doby, Lieutenants Bonny and Matthieson, Sergeants Lee and Haile, and Corporals Whitaker and Salmond, were distinguished in the active and fearless performance of their arduous duties.

I am indebted to Colonel R. H. Chilton, Colonel Long, Majors Taylor, Marshall, Venable and Talcott, and Captains Mason and Johnson, of the staff of the commanding General, for great courtesy and kindness in assisting me on the different battle fields.

I respectfully ask the attention of the commanding General to the reports of division, brigade, and other commanders, and approve their high encomiums of their officers and men.

Reports of killed, wounded and missing have already been forwarded.

I remain, sir, with respect, your obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,  
*Lieutenant General commanding.*

*STATEMENT OF LOSSES in the Corps commanded by Major General J. Longstreet in the engagements at Thoroughfare Gap, Rappahannock, Freeman's Ford, Manassas, Crampton's Gap, Maryland Heights, Sharpsburg, and South Mountain.*

CASUALTIES FROM THE 23RD TO 30TH AUGUST,  
INCLUSIVE.

REPORT OF GENERAL JACKSON OF OPERATIONS FROM  
15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST TO 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 1862.

COTTAGE HOUSE, N. C., May 22, 1863.

Colonel R. H. CHILTON,

*A. A. and I. General, Department N. V.:*

COLONEL: On opening General Jackson's trunk in Lexington, Virginia, we found in it the accompanying report of the operations of his command, from the 15th of August to 5th of September, 1862. Also an *unfinished* report embracing operations of his command from 5th of September to the end of the Maryland campaign. The unfinished report Lieutenant Smith, A. D. C., has. He intends giving it to Colonel Faulkner to finish; it will then be forwarded.

I am, Colonel, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. E. MORRISON, A. D. C.

*to Lieut. General Jackson.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS, A. N. V., April 27, 1863.

Brigadier General R. H. CHILTON,

*A. A. A. General, Headquarters Dep't A. N. V.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor herewith to submit to you a report of the operations of my command from the 15th of August to the 5th day of September, 1862, embracing the several engagements of Manassas Junction, Bristoe Station, Ox Hill, and so much of the battle of Groveton, on the 28th, 29th and 30th of August as was fought by the troops under my command:

On the 15th of August, in obedience to instructions from the commanding General, I left my encampment near Gordonsville, and, passing Orange Court-House, encamped in the evening near Mount Pisgah church, where I remained until the 20th, when, in accordance with my instructions, whilst General Longstreet was crossing at Raccoon ford, I crossed the same river at Somerville ford. The command encamped for the night near Stevensburg. My command at this time comprised Ewell's, A. P. Hill's and Jackson's divisions. Ewell's was composed of the brigades of Generals Lawton, Early, Hays, (Colonel Forno commanding) and Trimble, with the batteries of Brown, Dement, Latimer, Balthis and D'Aquin. A. P. Hill's division was composed of the brigades of Generals Branch, Gregg, Field, Pender, Archer and Colonel Thomas, with the batteries of Braxton, Latham, Crenshaw, McIntosh, Davidson and Pegram. Jackson's division, commanded by Brigadier General William B. Taliaferro, was composed of Winder's brigade, (Colonel Baylor commanding,) Colonel Campbell's brigade, (Major John Seddon com-

manding,) Brigadier General William B. Taliaferro's brigade, (Colonel A. G. Taliaferro commanding,) and Starke's brigade, with the batteries of Brockenbrough, Wooding, Poague, Carpenter, Caskie and Raines. Major General Stuart, with his cavalry, co-operated during the expedition, and I shall more than once have to acknowledge my obligations for the valuable and efficient aid which he rendered.

Ealy on the morning of the 21st, the command left its encampment and moved in the direction of Beverly's ford, on the Rappahannock, General Taliaferro's command in the lead. On approaching the ford, the enemy was seen on the opposite bank. Batteries of that division, under the direction of Major Shumaker, chief of artillery, were placed in position, which, after a short resistance, (as reported by General Taliaferro,) silenced the enemy's guns, and dispersed his infantry. Major General Stuart had crossed with a portion of his cavalry, supported by some pieces of artillery, and, after skirmishing with the enemy a few hours, taking some prisoners and arms, returned with the information that the Federal forces were moving in strength upon his position, and were close at hand. The enemy soon appeared on the opposite bank, and an animated firing was opened, and, to a considerable extent, kept up across the river for the rest of the day, between the Federal artillery and the batteries of Taliaferro's command.

On the following morning, (22d,) the three divisions continued their march up the bank of the Rappahannock, General Ewell in the advance, and crossed Hazel river, one of its tributaries, at Wellford's mill, near which General Trimble was left with his brigade to protect the flank of our wagon train from the enemy, who was moving up the north side of the Rappahannock, simultaneously with the advance of our troops on the south side.

About twelve M., a small party surprised part of the train, and captured some ambulances and mules, which were, however, soon recovered, and some prisoners taken, who gave information that a more considerable Federal force had crossed the river.

About four, P. M., General Trimble, supported by General Hood, (who was the advance of Longstreet's command,) had a sharp engagement with this force, in which, after gallantly charging and taking a number of prisoners, they drove the residue, with severe loss, across the river, under the protection of the guns of the main body of the Federal army, on the opposite side. In the meantime the command passed Freeman's ferd, which it found strongly guarded, and moved on to a point opposite the Fauquier White Sulphur Springs, where we found the bridge destroyed, and other evidence that the enemy was in close proximity.

In the afternoon of the 22d, the thirteenth Georgia, Colonel Douglass, Brown's and Dement's batteries of four guns each, and Early's brigade, crossing over, took possession of the Springs and adjacent heights, and taking some prisoners and incurring some risk from the rain and sudden rise of the water, which for a few hours cut off communication with the main body. In this critical situation, the skill

and presence of mind of General Early, was favorably displayed. It was deemed advisable not to attempt a passage at that point, but to proceed higher up the river.

By dawn, on the morning of the 24th, General Early, by means of a temporary bridge, which had been constructed for his relief, had his troops and artillery safely on the southern side.

On the 24th, there was a fierce cannonade between General Hill's artillery and that of the enemy across the river. In the meantime, General Stuart, who had preceded me, crossed the Rappahannock, striking the enemy in his rear, making his brilliant night attack upon his camp at Catlett's Station, capturing many prisoners, personal baggage of General Pope, and his despatch book, containing information of value to us in this expedition. In the evening, we moved near Jeffersonton. Pursuing the instructions of the commanding General, I left Jeffersonton on the morning of the 25th, to throw my command between Washington city and the army of General Pope, and to break up his railroad communication with the Federal capital. Taking the route by Amissville, crossing Hedgeman river, one of the tributaries of the Rappahannock, at Henson's mill, and moving via Orlean, we reached the vicinity of Salem, after a severe day's march, and bivouacked there for the night.

On the next day, (26th,) the march was continued, diverging to the right at Salem, crossing the Bull Run mountain through Thoroughfare Gap, and, passing Gainesville, we reached Bristoe Station on the Orange and Alexandria railroad after sunset.

At Gainesville, I was joined by General Stuart, who, after leaving the vicinity of Waterloo Bridge, about two o'clock, A. M., had, by a rapid march, come up in time to render all useful assistance. He kept upon my right flank during the residue of the day. My command was now in rear of General Pope's army, separating it from the Federal capital and its base of supply. As we approached Bristoe Station, the sound of cars coming from the direction of Warrenton Junction, was heard, and General Ewell divided his force so as to take simultaneous possession of the two points of the railroad. Colonel Munford, with the second Virginia cavalry, co operated in this movement. Two trains of cars and some prisoners were captured, the largest portion of the small Federal force at that point making its escape. Learning that the enemy had collected at Manassas Junction, a station about seven miles distant, stores of great value, I deemed it important that no time should be lost in securing them. Notwithstanding the darkness of the night, and the fatiguing march which would, since dawn, be over thirty miles, before reaching the Junction, Brigadier General Trimble volunteered to proceed there forthwith, with the twenty-first North Carolina, (Lieutenant Colonel Fulton commanding,) and the twenty-first Georgia, (Major Glover commanding,) in all, about five hundred men, and capture the place. I accepted the gallant offer, and gave him orders to move without delay. In order to increase the prospect of success, Major General Stuart, with a portion of his cavalry, was subsequently directed to move forward, and, as the ranking officer, to take command of the

expedition. The duty was cheerfully undertaken by all who were assigned to it, and most promptly and successfully executed. Notwithstanding the Federal fire of musketry and artillery, our infantry dispersed the troops placed there for the defence of the place, and captured eight guns, with seventy two horses, equipments and ammunition complete, immense supplies of commissary and quartermaster stores, upwards of two hundred new tents; and General Trimble also reports the capture of over three hundred prisoners, and one hundred and seventy-five horses, exclusive of those belonging to the artillery, besides recovering over two hundred negroes. The next morning, the divisions under command of Generals Hill and Taliaferro, moved to Manassas Junction, the division of General Ewell remaining at Bristoe Station. About a mile before reaching the Junction, Colonel Baylor encountered and dispersed a regiment of Federal cavalry. Soon after the advance of the troops from Bristoe Station reached the Junction, they were fired upon by a distant battery of the enemy posted in the direction of the battle-field of Manassas. This artillery was soon driven off, and retreated in the direction of Centreville. Soon after, a considerable body of Federal infantry, under Brigadier General Taylor, of New Jersey, came in sight, having, it is believed, that morning left Alexandria in the cars, and boldly pushed forward to recover the position and stores which had been lost the previous night. The advance was made with great spirit and determination, and under a leader worthy of a better cause. Assailed by the batteries of Poague and Carpenter, and some of General Hill's division, and apparently seeing that there was danger of its retreat being cut off by our other troops if it continued to move forward, it soon commenced retreating, and, being subjected to a heavy fire from our batteries, was soon routed, leaving its killed and wounded upon the field. Several brigades of General Hill's division pressed forward in pursuit. In this conflict, the Federal commander, General Taylor, was mortally wounded.

Our loss was small. In the afternoon of the same day, heavy columns of the enemy were seen approaching Bristoe Station from the direction of Warrenton Junction, and on the right of the railroad. General Ewell promptly made dispositions to meet them. So soon as the enemy came within range, the batteries of his division opened upon them from their several positions, as did also the sixth and eighth Louisiana and sixtieth Georgia regiments. By this combined fire, two columns of the enemy, of not less than a brigade each, were driven back. But fresh columns soon supplied their places, and it was obvious that the enemy was advancing in heavy force. General Ewell's instructions were, if hard pressed, to fall back and join the main command at Manassas Junction, and orders were accordingly given for the withdrawal of his forces north of Broad Run. At the moment of issuing this order, a portion of the troops were actively engaged, and the enemy advancing, and yet the withdrawal of the infantry and artillery was conducted with perfect order, General Early closing up the rear. The Federals halted near Bristoe Station, and General Ewell moved without further molestation, Colonel

Munford, of the second, and Colonel Rosser, of the fifth Virginia cavalry, bringing up his rear to Manassas. The destruction of the railroad bridge across Broad Run was entrusted to Lieutenant (now Captain) Boswell, of the engineer corps, under whose superintendence the duty was promptly and efficiently executed. Orders were given to supply the troops with rations and other articles which they could properly make subservient to their use from the captured property. It was vast in quantity and of great value, comprising fifty thousand pounds of bacon, one thousand barrels of corn-beef, two thousand barrels of salt pork, two thousand barrels of flour, quartermasters', ordnance, and sutlers' stores, deposited in buildings and filling two trains of cars. Having appropriated all that we could use, and unwilling that the residue should again fall into the hands of the enemy, who took possession of the place the following day, orders were given to destroy all that remained after supplying the immediate wants of the army. This was done during the night.

General Taliaferro moved his division that night across to the Warrenton and Alexandria turnpike, pursuing the road to Sudley mill, and crossing the turnpike in the vicinity of Groveton, halted near the battle-field on the 21st of July, 1861. Ewell's and Hill's divisions joined Jackson's on the 28th. My command had hardly concentrated north of the turnpike before the enemy's advance reached the vicinity of Groveton from the direction of Warrenton. General Stuart kept me advised of the general movements of the enemy, whilst Colonel Rosser, of the cavalry, with his command, and Colonel Bradley T. Johnson, commanding Campbell's brigade, remained in front of the Federals and operated against their advance. Dispositions were promptly made to attack the enemy, based upon the idea that he would continue to press forward upon the turnpike towards Alexandria. But as he did not appear to advance in force, and there was reason to believe his main body was leaving the road, and inclining towards Manassas Junction, my command was advanced through the woods, leaving Groveton on the left, until it reached a commanding position near Brawner's house. By this time it was near sunset, but his column appeared to be moving by with its flank exposed. I determined to attack at once, which was vigorously done by the divisions of Taliaferro and Ewell. The batteries of Wooding, Poague and Carpenter were placed in position in front of Starke's brigade, and above the village of Groveton, and firing over the heads of our skirmishers, poured a heavy fire of shot and shell upon the enemy. This was responded to by a very heavy fire from the enemy, forcing our batteries to select another position. By this time, Taliaferro's command, with Lawton's and Trimble's brigades on his left, were advanced from the woods to the open field, and were now moving in gallant style until they reached an orchard on the right of our line, and were less than a hundred yards from a large force of the enemy. The conflict here was fierce and sanguinary. Although largely reinforced, the Federals did not attempt to advance, but maintained their ground with obstinate determination. Both lines stood exposed to the discharge of musketry and artillery, until about

nine o'clock, when the enemy slowly fell back, yielding the field to our troops. The loss on both sides was heavy, and among our wounded were Major General Ewell and Brigadier General Taliaferro, the latter, after a few months, was able to assume his duties, the former, I regret to say, is still disabled by his wound, and the army thus deprived of his valuable services.

This obstinate resistance of the enemy appears to have been for the purpose of protecting the flank of his column until it should pass the position occupied by our troops. Owing to the difficulty of getting artillery through the woods, I did not have so much of that arm as I desired at the opening of the engagement; but this want was met by Major Pelham, with the Stuart horse artillery, who dashed forward on my right and opened upon the enemy at a moment when his services were much needed. Although the enemy moved off under cover of the night, and left us in quiet possession of the field, he did not long permit us to remain inactive, or in doubt as to his intention to renew the conflict. The next morning I found that he had abandoned the ground occupied as the battle-field the evening before, and had moved further to the east, and to my left, placing himself between my command and the Federal capital. My troops on this day were distributed along and in the vicinity of the cut of an unfinished railroad, (intended as a part of the track to connect the Manassas road directly with Alexandria, (stretching from the Warrenton turnpike in the direction of Sudley mill. It was mainly along the excavation of this unfinished road that my line of battle was formed on the 29th, Jackson's division, under Brigadier General Starke, on the right, Ewell's division, under Brigadier General Lawton, in the centre, and Hill's division on the left. In the morning, about ten o'clock, the Federal artillery opened with spirit and animation upon our right, which was soon replied to by the batteries of Poague, Carpenter, Dement, Brockenbrough, and Latimer, under Major Shumaker. This lasted for some time, when the enemy moved around more to our left to another point of attack. His next effort was directed against our left. This was vigorously repulsed by the batteries of Braxton, Crenshaw, and Pegram. About two o'clock, P. M., the Federal infantry, in large force, advanced to the attack of our left, occupied by the division of General Hill. It pressed forward in defiance of our fatal and destructive fire with great determination, a portion of it crossing a deep cut in the railroad track, and penetrating in heavy force an interval of near a hundred and seventy-five yards, which separated the right of Gregg's from the left of Thomas' brigade. For a short time Gregg's brigade, on the extreme left, was isolated from the main body of the command. But the fourteenth South Carolina regiment, then in reserve, with the forty-ninth Georgia, left of Col. Thomas', attacked the exultant enemy with vigor, and drove them back across the railroad track with great slaughter. Gen. McGowan reports that the opposing forces, at one time, delivered their volleys into each other at the distance of ten paces. Assault after assault was made on the left, exhibiting on the part of the enemy great pertinacity and determination, but every advance was most successfully and

gallantly driven back. General Hill reports that six separate and distinct assaults were thus met and repulsed by his division, assisted by Hays' brigade, Colonel Forno commanding. By this time the brigade of General Gregg, which, from its position on the extreme left, was most exposed to the enemy's attack, had nearly expended its ammunition. It had suffered severely in its men, and all its field officers, except two, were killed or wounded. About four o'clock it had been assisted by Hay's brigade, (Colonel Forno.) It was now retired to the rear to take some repose after seven hours of severe service and General Early's brigade, of Ewell's division, with the eighth Louisiana regiment, took its place. On reaching his position, General Early found that the enemy had obtained possession of the railroad and a piece of wood in front, there being at this point a deep cut, which furnished a strong defence. Moving through a field, he advanced upon the enemy, drove them from the wood and railroad cut with great slaughter, and followed in pursuit some two hundred yards. The thirteenth Georgia at the same time advanced to the railroad and crossed with Early's brigade. As it was not desirable to bring on a general engagement that evening, General Early was recalled to the railroad, where Thomas, Pender and Archer had firmly maintained their positions during the day. Early kept his position there until the following morning. Brigadier General Field and Colonel Forno (commanding Hays' brigade) were severely wounded. Brigadier General Trimble was also seriously wounded. During the day, a force of the enemy penetrated the wood in my rear, endangering the safety of my ambulances and train. Upon being advised of this, by General Stuart, I sent a body of infantry to drive them from the wood. But in the meantime, the vigilant Pelham had unlimbered his battery and dispersed that portion of them which had reached the wood. At a later period, Major Patrick, of the cavalry, who was by General Stuart entrusted with guarding the train, was attacked, and although it was promptly and effectually repulsed, it was not without the loss of that intrepid officer, who fell in the attack whilst setting an example of gallantry to his men well worthy of imitation. During the day, the commanding General arrived, and also General Longstreet, with his command. On the following day, (30th) my command occupied the ground, and the divisions the same relative position to each other, and to the field, which they held the day before, forming the left wing of the army. General Longstreet's command formed the right wing. A large quantity of artillery was posted upon a commanding eminence in the centre.

After some desultory skirmishing and heavy cannonading during the day, the Federal infantry, about four o'clock in the evening, moved from under cover of the wood and advanced in several lines, first engaging the right, but soon extending its attack to the centre and left. In a few moments our entire line was engaged in a fierce and sanguinary struggle with the enemy. As one line was repulsed, another took its place and pressed forward as if determined, by force of numbers and fury of assault, to drive us from our positions. So impetuous and well sustained were these onsets as to induce me to

send to the commanding General for reinforcements, but the timely and gallant advance of General Longstreet, on the right, relieved my troops from the pressure of overwhelming numbers and gave to those brave men the chances of a more equal conflict. As Longstreet pressed upon the right, the Federal advance was checked, and soon a general advance of my whole line was ordered. Eagerly and fiercely did each brigade press forward, exhibiting in parts of the field scenes of close encounter and murderous strife not witnessed often in the turmoil of battle. The Federals gave way before our troops, fell back in disorder, and fled precipitately, leaving their dead and wounded on the field. During their retreat the artillery opened with destructive power upon the fugitive masses. The infantry followed until darkness put an end to the pursuit.

Our loss was heavy; that of the enemy, as shown by the battle-field, of which we were in possession, much heavier. Among the losses was Colonel Baylor, commanding Winder's brigade, who fell in front of his brigade, whilst nobly leading it on to the charge. We captured eight pieces of artillery, with their caissons, and six thousand five hundred and twenty small arms were collected from the battle-field.

It being ascertained next morning that the Federal army had retreated in the direction of Centreville, I was ordered by the commanding General to turn that position. Crossing Bull Run at Sudley ford, thence pursuing a country road until we reached the Little River turnpike, which we followed in the direction of Fairfax Court-House until the troops halted for the night. Early next morning, September 1st, we moved forward, and late in the evening, after reaching Ox Hill, came in contact with the enemy, who were in position on our right and front, covering his line of retreat from Centreville to Fairfax Court-House. Our line of battle was formed—General Hill's division on the right; Ewell's division, General Lawton commanding, in the centre; and Jackson's division, General Starke commanding, on the left—all on the right of the turnpike road. Artillery was posted on an eminence to the left of the road. The brigades of Branch and Field, Colonel Brockenbrough commanding the latter, were sent forward to feel and engage the enemy. A cold and drenching thunder shower swept over the field at this time, striking directly into the faces of our troops. These two brigades gallantly engaged the enemy, but so severe was the fire in front and flank of Branch's brigade as to produce in it some disorder and falling back. The brigades of Gregg, Thomas and Pender were then thrown into the fight. Soon a portion of Ewell's division became engaged. The conflict now raged with great fury, the enemy obstinately and desperately contesting the ground until their Generals Kearney and Stephens fell in front of Thomas' brigade, after which they retired from the field.

By the following morning the Federal army had entirely disappeared from our view, and it soon appeared, by a report from General Stuart, that it had passed Fairfax Court-House and had moved in the direction of Washington city.

On the 3rd of September we left Ox Hill, taking the road by Dranesville and Leesburg, and on the 4th bivouacked near the Big Spring, between Leesburg and the Potomac.

The official reports of the casualties of my command, in its operations from the Rappahannock to the Potomac, will show a loss of seventy-five officers killed and two hundred and seventy-three wounded, seven hundred and thirty non-commissioned officers and officers and privates killed, three thousand two hundred and seventy-four wounded, and thirty-five missing, making a total loss of four thousand three hundred and eighty-seven.

Colonel S. Crutchfield, chief of artillery, discharged his duties well. The conduct of officers and men during the various engagements described was such as to entitle them to great praise. The wounded were skillfully cared for by my medical director, Dr. Hunter McGuire. In the transmission of orders I was greatly assisted, during the expedition, by the following members of my staff: Colonel A. Smead, assistant inspector general; Major E. F. Paxton, acting assistant adjutant general; Captain R. E. Wilbourn, chief signal officer; first Lieutenant H. R. Douglas, assistant inspector general; first Lieutenant J. G. Morrison, aid-de-camp, and Colonel William L. Jackson, volunteer aid-de-camp. Captain Wilbourn was so severely wounded at the battle of Groveton as to be unable to go further with the army. The ordnance, quartermaster and commissary departments were well managed by their respective chiefs, Majors G. H. Baer, J. A. Harman, and W. J. Hawks.

For further information, respecting the detailed movements of troops and the conduct of individuals, I would respectfully refer you to the accompanying reports.

For these great and signal victories our sincere and humble thanks are due unto Almighty God. We should in all things acknowledge the hand of Him who reigns in Heaven and rules among the armies of men. In view of the arduous labors and great privations the troops were called to endure, and the isolated and perilous position which the command occupied, while engaged with greatly superior numbers of the enemy, we can but express the grateful conviction of our mind, that God was with us and gave to us the victory, and unto His holy name be the praise.

I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. JACKSON,  
*Lieutenant General.*

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL JACKSON OF OPERATIONS FROM 5TH TO 27TH SEPTEMBER, 1862.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS, A. N. V., }  
April 23, 1863. }

Brigadier General R. H. CHILTON, *A. A. General:*

GENERAL: I have the honor, herewith, to submit a report of the operations of my command from the 5th to the 27th of September, 1862, embracing the capture of Harper's Ferry, the engagement at Shepherdstown and so much of the battle of Sharpsburg as was fought by the troops under my command:

My command comprised A. P. Hill's division, consisting of the brigades of Branch, Gregg, Field, (Colonel Brockenbrough, commanding,) Pender, Archer and Colonel Thomas, with the batteries of the division, under Lieutenant Colonel R. L. Walker; Ewell's division, under Brigadier General Lawton, consisting of the brigades of Early, Hays, (Colonel Strong,) Trimble, (Colonel Walker,) and Lawton, (Colonel Douglas,) with the artillery, under Major Courtney; and Jackson's division, under Brigadier General Starke, consisting of the brigades of Winder, (Colonel Grigsby,) Jones, (Colonel R. T. Johnson,) Taiiaferro, (Colonel Warren,) and Starke, (Colonel Stafford,) with the artillery, under Major Shumaker, chief of artillery.

On the 5th of September, my command crossed the Potomac at White's ford, and bivouacked that night near the Three Springs, in the State of Maryland. Not having any cavalry with me except the Black Horse, under Captain Randolph, I directed him after crossing the Potomac, to take part of his company and scout to the right, in order to avoid a surprise of the column from that direction. For the thorough and efficient manner in which this duty was discharged, and for the valuable service rendered generally, whilst attached to my headquarters, I desire to make special mention of this company and its officers, Captain Randolph and Lieutenants Paine, Tyler and Smith, who frequently transmitted orders in the absence of staff officers.

The next day we arrived in the vicinity of Frederick city. Jackson's division encamped near its suburbs, except the brigade of General Jones, (Colonel Bradley T. Johnson commanding,) which was posted in the city as a provost guard. Ewell's and Hill's divisions occupied positions near the railroad bridge over the Monocacy, guarding the approaches from Washington city.

In obedience to instructions from the commanding General, and for the purpose of capturing the Federal forces and stores then at Martinsburg and Harper's Ferry, my command left the vicinity of Frederick city on the 10th, and passing rapidly through Middletown, Boonsborough and Williamsport, recrossed the Potomac into Virginia at Light's ford, on the 11th. General Hill moved with his division

on the turnpike, direct from Williamsport to Martinsburg. The divisions of Jackson and Ewell proceeded towards the North mountain depot, on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, about seven miles northwest of Martinsburg. They bivouacked that night in the vicinity of the depot in order to prevent the Federal forces, then at Martinsburg, from escaping westward unobserved. Major Myers, commanding the cavalry, sent part of his troops as far south as the Berkeley and Hampshire turnpike. Brigadier General White, who was in command of the Federal forces at Martinsburg, becoming advised of our approach, evacuated the place on the night of the 11th and retreated to Harper's Ferry.

On the morning of the 12th, our cavalry entered the town, as, in the course of the day, did the main body of my command. At this point, abandoned quartermaster, commissary and ordnance stores fell into our hands. Proceeding thence towards Harper's Ferry, about eleven o'clock, A. M., on the following morning (13th,) the head of our column came in view of the enemy, drawn up in force upon Bolivar Heights. General Hill, who was in the advance, went into camp near Hultown, about two miles from the enemy's position. The two other divisions encamped near by.

The commanding General having directed Major General McLaws to move with his own and General R. H. Anderson's divisions to take possession of the Maryland Heights overlooking Harper's Ferry, and Brigadier General J. G. Walker, pursuing a different route, to cross the Potomac and move up that river on the Virginia side and occupy the Loudon Heights, both for the purpose of co-operating with me, it became necessary before making the attack to ascertain whether they were in position. Failing to learn the fact by signals, a courier was dispatched to each of those points for the required information. During the night the courier to the Loudon Heights returned with a message from General Walker that he was in position. In the meantime General McLaws had attacked the Federal force posted to defend the Maryland Heights, had routed it, and taken possession of that commanding position. The Potomac river flowed between the positions respectively occupied by General McLaws and myself, and the Shenandoah separated me from General Walker, and it became advisable, as the speediest mode of communication, to resort to signals. Before the necessary orders were thus transmitted, the day was far advanced.

The enemy had, by fortifications, strengthened the naturally strong position he occupied along Bolivar Heights, extending from near the Shenandoah to the Potomac. McLaws and Walker, being thus separated from the enemy, by intervening rivers, would afford no assistance beyond the fire of their artillery and guarding certain avenues of escape to the enemy. And from the reports received from them, by signals, in consequence of the distance and range of their guns, not much could be expected from their artillery, so long as the enemy retained his advanced position on Bolivar Heights.

In the afternoon, General Hill was ordered to move along the left bank of the Shenandoah, turn the enemy's left, and enter Harper's Ferry. General Lawton, commanding Ewell's division, was directed

to move along the turnpike for the purpose of supporting General Hill, and of otherwise operating against the enemy to his left. General J. R. Jones, commanding Jackson's division, was directed, with one of his brigades and a battery of artillery, to make a demonstration against the enemy's right, whilst the remaining part of his command, as a reserve, moved along the turnpike. Major Massie, commanding the cavalry, was directed to keep upon our left flank for the purpose of preventing the enemy from escaping. Brigadier General Walker guarded against an escape across the Shenandoah river. Fearing lest the enemy should attempt to escape across the Potomac, by means of signals I called the attention of Major General McLaws, commanding on the Maryland Heights, to the propriety of guarding against such an attempt. The demonstration on the left against the enemy's right was made by Winder's brigade, (Colonel Grigsby commanding) It was ordered to secure a commanding hill to the left of the heights, near the Potomac. Promptly dispersing some cavalry, this eminence, from which the batteries of Poague and Carpenter subsequently did such admirable execution, was secured without difficulty. In execution of the order given Major General Hill, he moved obliquely to the right until he struck the Shenandoah river. Observing an eminence crowning the extreme left of the enemy's line, occupied by infantry, but without artillery, and protected only by an abattis of fallen timber, Pender, Archer and Brockenbrough were directed to gain the crest of that hill, while Branch and Gregg were directed to march along the river, and, during the night, to take advantage of the ravines, cutting the precipitous banks of the river, and establish themselves on the plain to the left and rear of the enemy's works. Thomas followed as a reserve. The execution of the first movement, was entrusted to Brig. Gen. Pender, who accomplished it with slight resistance; and during the night, Lieut. Colonel Walker, chief of artillery of Hill's division, brought up the batteries of Captains Pegram, McIntosh, Davidson, Braxton and Crenshaw, and established them upon the position thus gained. Branch and Gregg also gained the positions indicated for them, and daybreak found them in rear of the enemy's line of defence.

As directed, Brigadier General Lawton, commanding Ewell's division, moved on the turnpike in three columns—one on the road, and another on each side of it—until he reached Hulltown, when he formed line of battle and advanced to the woods on School-House hill. The division laid on their arms during the night, Lawton and Trimble being in line on the right of the road, and Hays on the left, with Early immediately in his rear. During the night, Colonel Crutchfield, my chief of artillery, crossed ten guns of Ewell's division over the Shenandoah and established them on its right bank, so as to enfilade the enemy's position on Boliver Heights, and take his nearest and most formidable fortifications in reverse. The other batteries of Ewell's division were placed in position on School-House hill, on each side of the road.

At dawn, September 15th, General Lawton advanced his division to the front of the woods, Lawton's brigade (Colonel Douglas com-

manding,) moved by flank, to the bottom between School-House hill and Bolivar Heights, to support the advance of Major General Hill. Lieutenant Colonel Walker opened a rapid enfilade fire from all his batteries at about one thousand yards range. The batteries on School-House hill, attacked the enemy's lines in front. In a short time the guns of Captains Brown, Garber, Latimer and Dement, under the direction of Colonel Crutchfield, opened from the rear. The batteries of Poague and Carpenter opened fire upon the enemy's right. The artillery upon the Loudon Heights, of Brigadier General Walker's command, under Captain French, which had silenced the enemy's artillery near the superintendent's house on the preceding afternoon, again opened upon Harper's Ferry, and also some guns of Major General McLaws from the Maryland Heights. In an hour, the enemy's fire seemed to be silenced, and the batteries of General Hill were ordered to cease their fire, which was the signal for storming the works. General Pender had commenced his advance, when the enemy again opening, Pegram and Crenshaw moved forward their batteries, and poured a rapid fire into the enemy. The white flag was now displayed, and shortly afterwards Brigadier General White (the commanding officer, Colonel D. S. Miles, having having been mortally wounded,) with a garrison of about eleven thousand men, surrendered as prisoners of war. Under this capitulation, we took possession of seventy-three pieces of artillery, some thirteen thousand small arms, and other stores. Liberal terms were granted to General White, and the officers under his command, in the surrender, which, I regret to say, do not seem, from subsequent events, to have been properly appreciated by their Government.

Leaving General Hill to receive the surrender of the Federal troops, and take the requisite steps for securing the captured stores, I moved, in obedience to orders from the commanding General, to rejoin him in Maryland, with the remaining divisions of my command. By a severe night march, we reached the vicinity of Sharpsburg on the morning of the 16th.

By direction of the commanding General, I advanced on the enemy, leaving Sharpsburg to the right, and took position to the left of General Longstreet, near a Dunkard church, Ewell's division (General Lawton commanding) forming the right, and Jackson's division (General J. R. Jones commanding) forming the left of my command. Major General Stuart, with the cavalry, was on my left. Jackson's division (General Jones commanding) was formed partly in an open field, and partly in the woods, with its right resting upon the Sharpsburg and Hagerstown turnpikes; Winder's and Jones' brigades being in front, and Taliaferro's and Starke's brigades a short distance in their rear, and Poague's battery on a knoll in front.

Ewell's division followed that of Jackson to the woods on the left of the road near the church. Early's brigade was then formed on the left of the line of Jackson's division, to guard its flank, and Hays' brigade was formed in its rear. Lawton's and Trimble's brigades remained, during the evening, with arms stacked, near the church.

A battery of the enemy, some five hundred yards to the front of Jackson's division, opening fire upon a battery to the right, was silenced in twenty minutes by a rapid and well directed fire from Poague's battery. Other batteries of the enemy opened soon after upon our lines, and the firing continued until after dark.

About ten, P. M., Lawton's and Trimble's brigades advanced to the front to relieve the command of Brigadier General Hood, (on the left of Major General D. H. Hill,) which had been more or less engaged during the evening. Trimble's brigade was posted on the right, next to Ripley's, of D. H. Hill's division, and Lawton's on the left.

The troops slept that night upon their arms, disturbed by the occasional fire of the pickets of the two armies, who were in close proximity to each other. At the first dawn of day, skirmishing commenced in front, and in a short time the Federal batteries, so posted on the opposite side of the Anteitam as to enfilade my line, opened a severe and damaging fire. This was vigorously replied to by the batteries of Poague, Carpenter, Brockenbough, Raines, Caskie and Wooding. About sunrise, the Federal infantry advanced in heavy force to the edge of the wood, on the eastern side of the turnpike, driving in our skirmishers. Batteries were opened in front from the wood with shell and canister, and our troops became exposed, for near an hour, to a terrific storm of shell, canister and musketry. General Jones having been compelled to leave the field, the command of Jackson's division devolved upon General Starke. With heroic spirit, our lines advanced to the conflict, and maintained their position in the face of superior numbers with stubborn resolution, sometimes driving the enemy before them, and sometimes compelled to fall back before their well sustained and destructive fire. Fresh troops from time to time relieved the enemy's ranks, and the carnage on both sides was terrific. At this early hour, General Starke was killed, Colonel Douglas, (commanding Lawton's brigade,) was also killed. General Lawton, commanding division, and Colonel Walker, commanding brigade, were severely wounded. More than half of the brigades of Lawton and Hays were either killed or wounded, and more than a third of Trimble's, and all the regimental commanders in those brigades, except two, were killed or wounded. Thinned in their ranks, and exhausted of their ammunition, Jackson's division and the brigades of Lawton, Hays and Trimble, retired to the rear, and Hood, of Longstreet's command, again took the position from which he had been before relieved. In the meantime, General Stuart moved his artillery to a position nearer to the main command, and more in our rear. Early being now directed, in consequence of the disability of General Lawton, to take command of Ewell's division, returned with his brigade (with the exception of the thirteenth Virginia regiment, which remained with General Stuart,) to the piece of wood where he had left the other brigades of his division when he was separated from them. Here he found that the enemy had advanced his infantry near the wood, in which was the Dunkard church, and had planted a battery across the turnpike, near the edge of the wood and an open field, and that the brigades of Lawton, Hays and Trim-

ble had fallen back some distance to the rear. Finding here Colonels Grigsby and Stafford, with a portion of Jackson's division, which formed on his left, he determined to maintain his position there if reinforcements could be sent to his support, of which he was promptly assured. Colonel Grigsby, with his small command, kept in check the advance of the enemy on the left flank, while General Early attacked, with great vigor and gallantry, the column on his right and front. The force in front was giving way under this attack, when another heavy column of Federal troops were seen moving across the plateau on his left flank. By this time the expected reinforcements, consisting of Semmes' and Anderson's brigades and a part of Barksdale's, of McLaw's division, arrived, and the whole, including Grigsby's command, now united, charged upon the enemy, checking his advance, then driving him back, with great slaughter, entirely from and beyond this wood, and gaining possession of our original position. No further advance, beyond demonstrations, was made by the enemy on the left. In the afternoon, in obedience to instructions from the commanding General, I moved to the left with a view to turning the Federal right; but I found his numerous artillery so judiciously established in their front and extending so near to the Potomac, which here makes a remarkable bend, as will be seen by reference to the map herewith annexed, as to render it inexpedient to hazard the attempt. In this movement, Major General Stuart had the advance, and acted his part well. This officer rendered valuable service throughout the day. His bold use of artillery secured for us an important position, which, had the enemy possessed, might have commanded our left. At the close of the day, my troops held the ground which they had occupied in the morning. The next day we remained in position awaiting another attack. The enemy continued in heavy force west of the Anteitam on our left, but made no further movement to the attack.

I refer you to the report of Major General A. P. Hill for the operations of his command in the battle of Sharpsburg. Arriving upon the battle-field from Harper's Ferry at half-past two o'clock of the 17th, he reported to the commanding General, and was by him directed to take position on the right. I have not embraced the movements of his division, nor his killed and wounded of that action, in my report.

Early in the morning of the 19th, we recrossed the Potomac river into Virginia near Shepherdstown. The promptitude and success with which this movement was effected reflects the highest credit upon the skill and energy of Major Harman, chief quartermaster. In the evening, the command moved on the road leading to Martinsburg, except Lawton's brigade, (Colonel Lamar, of the sixty-first Georgia, commanding,) which was left on the Potomac heights.

On the same day the enemy appeared in considerable force on the northern side of the Potomac, and commenced planting heavy batteries on its heights. In the evening, the Federals commenced crossing under the protection of their guns, driving off Lawton's brigade and General Pendleton's artillery. By morning, a considerable force had

crossed over. Orders were despatched to Generals Early and Hill, who had advanced some four miles on the Martinsburg road, to return and drive back the enemy. General Hill, who was in the advance, as he approached the town, formed his line of battle in two lines, the first composed of the brigades of Pender, Gregg and Thomas, under the command of General Gregg, and the second of Lane's, Archer's and Brockenbrough's brigades, under command of General Archer. General Early, with the brigades of Early, Trimble and Hays, took position in the wood on the right and left of the road leading to the ford. The Federal infantry lined the high banks of the Virginia shore, while their artillery, formidable in numbers and weight of metal, crowned the opposite heights of the Potomac. General Hill's division advanced with great gallantry against the Federal infantry, in the face of a continuous discharge of shot and shell from their batteries. The Federals, massing in front of Pender, poured a heavy fire into his ranks, and then extending with a view to turn his left, Archer promptly formed on Pender's left, when a simultaneous charge was made, which drove the enemy into the river, followed by an appalling scene of the destruction of human life. Two hundred prisoners were taken. This position, on the bank of the river, we continued to hold that day, although exposed to the enemy's guns and within range of his sharpshooters, posted near the Chesapeake and Ohio canal. Our infantry remained at the river until relieved by cavalry, under General Fitzhugh Lee.

On the evening of the 20th, the command moved from Shepherdstown and encamped near the Opequon, in the vicinity of Martinsburg. We remained near Martinsburg until the 27th, when we moved to Bunker Hill, in the county of Berkeley.

The official list of casualties of my command, during the period embraced in this report, will show that we sustained a loss of thirty-eight officers killed and one hundred and seventy-one wounded, of three hundred and thirteen non-commissioned officers and privates killed, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine wounded, and fifty-seven missing; making a total loss of two thousand four hundred and thirty-eight killed, wounded and missing.

I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. J. JACKSON, Lieutenant General.

Official:

CHARLES J. FAULKNER, Lieut. Col. and A. A. G.

HEADQUARTERS OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL EWELL, }  
July, 1863. }

MAJOR: I herewith forward to you the *last* of General Jackson's official report. I found the two missing pages, and had the whole re-copied. You will now oblige me by having my resignation approved by General Lee and forwarded to the Secretary of War.

I am, truly yours,

CHARLES J. FAULKNER.

I certify that the above is an authentic report by Lieutenant General Jackson of the operations of his command from the 5th to the 27th September, 1862; that, after undergoing his last revision, he had directed it to be copied, with a view to its being signed and forwarded by him, which purpose was interrupted by movements of General Hooker, resulting in the battle of Chancellorsville. There is an omission of that customary notice of his staff, which he was in the habit of inserting in the final copy of his reports, previous to its being forwarded.

CHARLES J. FAULKNER, *A. A. G.*

*LIST OF CASUALTIES in the fights at Boonsboro', Crampton's Gap,  
Harper's Ferry, Sharpsburg, and Shepherdstown, in September, 1862:*

Regiment.	Brigade.	Division.	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
1st Virginia,.....	Kemper's,	Pickett's,.....	.....	8	8
7th Virginia,.....	"	"	2	10	12
11th Virginia,.....	"	"	3	33	41
17th Virginia,.....	"	"	6	30	36
24th Virginia,.....	"	"	.....	2	2
8th Virginia,.....	Pickett's (old)	"	4	9	13
18th Virginia,.....	"	"	5	38	43
19th Virginia,.....	"	"	7	37	44
28th Virginia,.....	"	"	8	54	62
56th Virginia,.....	"	"	1	19	20
21st North Carolina,.....	Ransom's,	Walker's,.....	20	44	64
25th North Carolina,.....	"	"	2	13	15
25th North Carolina,.....	"	"	3	23	26
49th North Carolina,.....	"	"	16	61	77
Branch's Battery,.....	"	"	2	3	5
34th Virginia,.....	Walker's,	"	39	121	160
46th North Carolina,.....	"	"	5	60	65
48th North Carolina,.....	"	"	31	156	217
27th North Carolina,.....	"	"	31	168	199
3rd Arkansas,.....	"	"	27	155	182
French's Battery,.....	"	"	1	1	2
8th Georgia,.....	Anderson's,	Hood's,.....	2	17	19
9th Georgia,.....	"	"	2	14	16
7th Georgia,.....	"	"	3	9	12
11th Georgia,.....	"	"	.....	10	10
1st Georgia,.....	"	"	1	29	30
4th Alabama,.....	Law's,	"	7	37	41
6th North Carolina,.....	"	"	8	117	125
2nd Mississippi,.....	"	"	27	126	154
11th Mississippi,.....	"	"	8	96	104
18th Georgia,.....	Wofford's,	"	13	72	85
1st Texas,.....	"	"	45	141	186
4th Texas,.....	"	"	10	97	107
5th Texas,.....	"	"	5	77	82
Hampton Legion,.....	"	"	6	47	53
Reilly's Battery,.....	"	"	2	8	10
Garden's Battery,.....	"	"	.....	9	9
Bachman's Battery,.....	"	"	2	2	4
17th Georgia,.....	Toombs',	"	.....	12	12
20th Georgia,.....	"	"	4	44	48
2nd Georgia,.....	"	"	6	37	43
15th Georgia,.....	"	"	6	30	36
6th South Carolina,.....	Jenkins',	"	7	51	58
Palmetto Sharpshooters,.....	"	"	9	55	64
1st South Carolina,.....	"	"	2	37	39
2d South Carolina,.....	"	"	2	14	16
5th South Carolina,.....	"	"	5	20	31
Holcombe Legion,.....	Evans',	"	.....	18	18
18th South Carolina,.....	"	"	3	39	42
22nd South Carolina,.....	"	"	8	64	72
23rd South Carolina,.....	"	"	14	66	80
17th South Carolina,.....	"	"	18	49	67
Washington Artillery,.....	"	"	4	23	30
15th South Carolina,.....	Drayton's,	McLaws',.....	26	84	110
50th Georgia,.....	"	"	29	97	126
51st Georgia,.....	"	"	1	7	8
13th Mississippi,.....	Barksdale's,	"	8	55	63
21st Mississippi,.....	"	"	6	56	62
18th Mississippi,.....	"	"	10	73	83
17th Mississippi,.....	"	"	11	82	93
2nd South Carolina,.....	Kershaw's,	"	17	77	94
3rd South Carolina,.....	"	"	7	73	80
7th South Carolina,.....	"	"	23	117	140
8th South Carolina,.....	"	"	2	17	19
Read's Battery,.....	"	"	4	10	14
10th Georgia,.....	Semmes',	"	15	69	84
68rd Georgia,.....	"	"	11	63	74
32nd Virginia,.....	"	"	15	57	72
15th Virginia,.....	"	"	11	63	74
Georgia Legion,.....	Cobb's,	"	18	68	86
24th Georgia,.....	"	"	13	145	158
16th Georgia,.....	"	"	23	83	106
16th North Carolina,.....	"	"	16	143	159
48th Georgia,.....	Wright's,	Anderson's,	1	46	47

*MARYLAND FIGHTS*—CONTINUED.

Regiment.	Brigade.	Division.	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
3rd Georgia.....	Wright's,	Anderson's,	9	57	66
22d Georgia.....	"	"	2	19	21
44th Alabama.....	"	"	4	65	69
53rd Virginia.....	Armistead's,	"	3	8	11
57th Virginia.....	"	"	.....	1	1
14th Virginia.....	"	"	.....	7	7
29th Virginia.....	"	"	2	14	16
8th Alabama.....	Wilcox's,	"	12	63	75
9th Alabama.....	"	"	12	42	54
10th Alabama.....	"	"	10	53	63
11th Alabama.....	"	"	3	26	29
14th Alabama.....	Pryor's,	"	2	43	45
31 Virginia.....	"	"	3	16	19
8th Florida.....	"	"	13	56	69
2d Florida.....	"	"	6	43	49
2d Mississippi battalion	Featherston's,	"	5	55	60
12th Mississippi.....	"	"	6	53	59
16th Mississippi.....	"	"	27	100	127
19th Mississippi.....	"	"	6	52	58
12th Virginia.....	Mahone's,	"	3	36	39
16th Virginia.....	"	"	.....	5	5
6th Virginia.....	"	"	4	19	23
41st Virginia.....	"	"	1	8	9
4th Virginia.....	Winder's,	Jackson's,	3	21	24
5th Virginia.....	"	"	2	23	28
27th Virginia.....	"	"	3	5	8
33d Virginia.....	"	"	3	16	19
Batteries.....	"	"	.....	9	9
23d Virginia.....	Taliaferro's,	"	8	35	43
47th Virginia.....	"	"	6	30	36
48th Virginia.....	"	"	5	33	38
37th Virginia.....	"	"	9	45	54
Danville artillery.....	"	"	2	3	5
2d Louisiana.....	Starke's,	"	10	49	59
9th Louisiana.....	"	"	25	57	82
10th Louisiana.....	"	"	17	34	51
15th Louisiana.....	"	"	4	15	19
1st Louisiana.....	"	"	14	49	63
Batteries.....	"	"	.....	8	8
13th Georgia.....	Lawton's,	Ewell's,	48	169	217
31st Georgia.....	"	"	11	39	50
60th Georgia.....	"	"	11	48	59
61st Georgia.....	"	"	16	91	107
13th Virginia.....	Early's,	"	.....	5	5
25th Virginia.....	"	"	2	21	23
31st Virginia.....	"	"	2	10	12
52d Virginia.....	"	"	3	36	39
44th Virginia.....	"	"	.....	22	22
49th Virginia.....	"	"	5	73	78
5th Louisiana.....	Hays'	"	10	49	59
6th Louisiana.....	"	"	18	29	47
7th Louisiana.....	"	"	6	63	69
8th Louisiana.....	"	"	7	84	91
12th Georgia.....	Trimble's,	"	13	49	62
15th Alabama.....	"	"	9	75	84
20th North Carolina.....	D. H. Hill's.	"	11	30	41
3d North Carolina.....	"	"	46	207	253
2d North Carolina.....	"	"	11	61	72
1st North Carolina.....	"	"	18	142	160
23d North Carolina.....	"	"	18	35	53
4th North Carolina.....	"	"	6	52	58
30th North Carolina.....	"	"	10	63	73
13th North Carolina.....	"	"	41	149	190
4th Georgia.....	"	"	22	119	141
6th Georgia.....	"	"	10	13	23
44th Georgia.....	"	"	17	65	82
21st Georgia.....	"	"	4	72	76
Jones' battery.....	"	"	1	25	26
23d Georgia.....	"	"	14	64	73
27th Georgia.....	"	"	15	89	104
28th Georgia.....	"	"	11	62	73
19th Georgia.....	"	"	13	76	89
Rodes's,	A. P. Hill,	"	70	409	479
Gen. Anderson and A. D. C.,			113	818	981
Gen. Garland, . . . . .			.....	2	2
Gen. Starke, . . . . .			1	.....	1
					1,567
					8,724
					10,291

*ENGAGEMENT near Kearnysville, Virginia, October —, 1862.*

Regiment.	Brigade.	Division.	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
4th Virginia,	Winder's,	Jackson's,	3	14	17
5th Virginia,	"	"		5	5
27th Virginia,	"	"		1	1
Carpenter's battery,				1	1
			3	21	24

## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL D. H. HILL.

### HEADQUARTERS DIVISION.

General R. H. CHILTON,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the operations of my command, from the battles around Richmond until after the battle of Sharpsburg.

On the 23d of July, I was detached from my division, and placed in charge of the department of the south side, extending from Drewry's Bluff to the South Carolina line. As General McClellan was then at Westover, on the James, some thirty miles from Richmond, and it was thought he might attempt an advance by the south side, my first attention was given to the defences in that direction. Heavy details were made from the division and two brigades near the bluff, to complete a line of entrenchments around it, and controlling the Petersburg road. Not a spade full of earth had been thrown up about Petersburg, and it was in a wholly defenceless condition. A system of fortifications was begun, (which subsequently met the approval of the chief engineer, Colonel J. F. Gilmer, C. S. A.,) and the brigades of Ransom, Walker and Daniel, were put to work on it. About a thousand negroes were procured (chiefly from North Carolina) and employed in like manner. Pontoon brigades were constructed at several points to make the connection rapid and secure, between the two positions to be secured. The defences of the Appomattox were also strengthened, and a moveable car planned and ordered to prevent a landing at City Point. An effort was made to organize and make efficient the numerous independent companies in the department, which had been of little use and much expense to the country. A concentration of these troops at Weldon and Goldsboro' was ordered to prevent the cutting of our important lines southward.

In accordance with instructions from the General commanding Army of Northern Virginia, I made a personal examination of the Yankee shipping and encampment, on the 28th instant, and determined to attack it from Coggins' Point and Meycock's, on the south side. This expedition was entrusted to Brigadier General French, and was a complete success. Forty-three pieces, under command of General Pendleton and Colonel J. T. Brown, were placed in position on the night of the 31st, on the banks of the river, within easy range of the objects to be reached. Much damage was done to the Yankee shipping, some destruction of life caused in the camp, and the wildest terror and consternation produced. The report of General French is herewith submitted. This officer had charge of the expedition, agreeably to the wishes of General Lee. Doubtless, the night attack had much to do with the evacuation of Westover, as it made McClellan feel that his shipping was insecure. Two days after, he took possession of Coggins' Point, and maintained a force on the south side till

he left the river. His gun-boats were attacked at the mouth of the Appomattox, and points were selected for the further harassing of his shipping. An expedition was sent out, under Colonel J. R. Chambliss, to within two miles of Suffolk. Arrangements were made for the defence of the Blackwater, Chowan, and Tar rivers, and a point selected for fortifications on the Roanoke to secure Weldon.

On the 21st August, I left Petersburg to join the army in northern Virginia, and was given command of McLaws' division and three brigades of my own division, at Hanover Junction. The brigades of Ripley and Colquitt, of my division, were in advance of us, at Orange Court-House. On the 26th August, we left Hanover Junction, and joined General Lee at Chantilly, on the 2d September, three days after the Yankees had been finally and decisively beaten in the second great battle of Manassas. On the 4th, Anderson's brigade was sent to fire on the Yankee trains at Berlin, and, with two brigades, we drove away the Yankee forces near the mouth of the Monocacy, and crossed the Potomac. That night and the next day were spent in destroying the lock and canal banks. The aqueduct could not be destroyed for want of powder and tools. The night of the 5th, my division followed General Jackson to within a few miles of Frederick. The General being disabled by the fall of his horse, the next morning I was placed in charge of all the forces, and marched into Frederick. The telegraph wires were cut and the station seized. A few stores and prisoners were taken in the city.

On the 10th, my division constituted the rear-guard, and had charge of the immense wagon train moving in the direction of Hagerstown. On the 13th, I was ordered by General Lee to dispose of my troops so as to prevent the escape of the Yankees from Harper's Ferry, then besieged, and also to guard the pass in the Blue Ridge, near Boonsboro'. Major General Stuart reported to me that two brigades only of the Yankees were pursuing us, and that one brigade would be sufficient to hold the pass. I, however, sent the brigades of Garland and Colquitt, and ordered my other three brigades up to the neighborhood of Boonsboro'. An examination of the pass, very early in the morning of the 14th, satisfied me that it could only be held by a large force, and was wholly indefensible by a small one. I accordingly ordered up Anderson's brigade. A regiment of Ripley's brigade was sent to hold another pass, some three miles distant, on our left. I felt reluctant to order up Ripley and Rodes from the important positions they were holding, until something definite was known of the strength and designs of the Yankees. About seven o'clock, they opened a fire upon our right, and pushed forward a large force through the dense woods, to gain a practicable road to our rear. Garland's brigade was sent in to meet this overwhelming force, and succeeded in checking it, and securing the road from any further attack that day. This brilliant service, however, cost us the life of that pure, gallant and accomplished Christian soldier, General Garland, who had no superiors, and few equals in the service. The Yankees, on their side, lost General Reno, a renegade Virginian, who was killed by a happy shot from the twenty-third North Carolina. Garland's brigade

was badly demoralized by his fall, and the rough handling it had received, and had the Yankees pressed vigorously forward, the road might have been gained. Providentially, they were ignorant of their success, or themselves too much damaged to advance. The twentieth North Carolina, of this brigade, under Colonel Iverson, had attacked a Yankee battery, killed all the horses, and driven off the gunners. This battery was used no more that day by the Yankees.

Anderson's brigade arrived in time to take the place of the much demoralized troops of Garland. There were two mountain roads practicable for artillery, on the right of the main turnpike. The defence of the further one had cost Garland his life. It was now entrusted to Colonel Rosser, of the cavalry, who had reported to me, and who had artillery and dismounted sharpshooters. General Anderson was entrusted with the care of the nearest and best road. Bondurant's battery was sent to aid him in its defence. The brigade of Colquitt was disposed on each side of the turnpike, and that, with Lane's battery, was judged adequate to the task. There was, however, a solitary peak on the left, which, if gained by the Yankees, would give them control of the ridge commanding the turnpike. The possession of this peak was, therefore, every thing to the Yankees, but they seemed slow to perceive it. I had a large number of guns from Cutt's artillery placed upon the hill on the left of the turnpike to sweep the approaches to this peak. From the position selected, there was a full view of the country for miles around. But the mountain was so steep that ascending columns were but little exposed to artillery fire. The artillerists of Cutt's battalion behaved gallantly, but their firing was the worst I ever witnessed.

Rodes and Ripley came up soon after Anderson. Rodes was sent to the left to seize the peak already mentioned, and Ripley was sent to the right to support Anderson. Several attempts had been made previous to this, by the Yankees, to force a passage through the woods on the right of, and near the turnpike. But these were repulsed by the sixth and twenty-seventh Georgia and the thirteenth Alabama, of Colquitt's brigade.

It was now past noon, and the Yankees had been checked for more than five hours. But it was evident that they were in large force on both sides of the road, and the signal corps reported heavy masses at the front of the mountain. In answer to a despatch from General Longstreet, I urged him to hurry forward troops to my assistance. General Drayton and Colonel G. T. Anderson came up, I think, about three o'clock, with one thousand nine hundred men, and I felt anxious to beat the force on my right before the Yankees made their grand attack, which I feared would be on our left. Anderson, Ripley and Drayton were called together, and I directed them to follow a path until they came in contact with Rosser, when they should change their flank, march in line of battle, and sweep the woods before them. To facilitate their movements, I brought up a battery and made it shell the woods in various directions. Anderson soon became partially, and Drayton hotly engaged. But Ripley did not draw trigger—why, I do not know. The fourth North Carolina (Anderson's

brigade) attempted to carry a Yankee battery, but failed. Three Yankee brigades moved up in beautiful order against Drayton, and his men were soon beaten and went streaming to the rear. Rosser, Anderson and Ripley still held their ground, and the Yankees could not gain our rear.

Affairs were now very serious on our left. A division of Yankees was advancing in handsome style against Rodes. I had every possible gun turned upon the Yankee columns, but owing to the steepness of the acclivity and the bad handling of the guns, but little harm was done to the "restorers of the Union." Rodes handled his little brigade in a most admirable and gallant manner, fighting, for hours, vastly superior odds, and maintaining the key-points of the position till darkness rendered a further advance of the Yankees impossible. Had he fought with less obstinacy, a practicable artillery road to the rear would have been gained on our left, and the line of retreat cut off.

Colonel Gordon, the Christian hero, excelled his former deeds at Seven Pines, and in the battles around Richmond. Our language is not capable of expressing a higher compliment.

General Rodes says the men and officers generally behaved well, but Colonel Gordon, sixth Alabama, Major Hobson, fifth Alabama, and Colonel Battle, third Alabama, deserve especial mention for admirable conduct during the whole fight. We did not drive the enemy back, or whip him; but, with one thousand two hundred men, we held his whole division at bay for four hours and a half, without assistance from any one, losing, in that time, not more than half a mile of ground.

He estimates his loss at four hundred and twenty-two, out of one thousand two hundred taken into action, but thinks that he inflicted a three-fold heavier loss on the Yankees. Colonel Gayle, of the twelfth Alabama, was killed, and Colonel O'Neal, twenty-fourth Alabama, and Lieutenant Colonel Pickens, of the twelfth, severely wounded.

Major General Longstreet came up about four o'clock, with the commands of Brigadier Generals Evans and D. R. Jones. I had now become familiar with the ground and knew all the vital points, and had these troops reported to me, the result might have been different. As it was, they took wrong positions, and, in their exhausted condition after a long march, they were broken and scattered. Our whole left was now fairly exposed, and the Yankees had but to push down to seize the turnpike.

It was now dark, however, and they feared to advance. All the available troops were collected behind a stone wall, to resist an approach upon the turnpike from the left. Encouraged by their successes in that direction the Yankees thought that it would be an easy matter to move directly up the turnpike. But they were soon undeceived. They were heroically met and bloodily repulsed by the twenty-third and twenty-eighth Georgia regiments of Colquitt's brigade. The fight lasted for more than an hour after night, but gradually subsided as the Yankees retired. General Hood (who had gone in on the right with his two noble brigades) pushed forward his skirmishers and

drove back the Yankees. We retreated that night to Sharpsburg, having accomplished all that was required—the delay of the Yankee army until Harper's Ferry could not be relieved. Should the truth ever be known, the battle of South Mountain, as far as my division was concerned, will be regarded as one of the most remarkable and creditable of the war. The division had marched all the way from Richmond, and the straggling had been enormous, in consequence of heavy marches, deficient commissariat, want of shoes, and inefficient officers. Owing to these combined causes, the division numbered less than five thousand men on the morning of the 14th September, and had five roads to guard, extending over a space of as many miles. This small force successfully resisted, without support, for eight hours, the whole Yankee army, and when its supports were beaten, still held the roads, so that our retreat was effected without the loss of a gun, a wagon, or an ambulance. Rodes' brigade had immortalized itself; Colquitt's had fought well, and the two regiments most closely pressed, (twenty-third and twenty-eighth Georgia,) had repulsed the foe; Garland's brigade had behaved nobly until demoralized by the fall of its gallant leader, and being outflanked by the Yankees; Anderson's brigade had shown its wonted gallantry; Ripley's brigade, for some cause, had not been engaged, and was used with Hood's two brigades to cover the retreat.

Had Longstreet's division been with mine at daylight in the morning, the Yankees would have been disastrously repulsed. But they had gained important positions before the arrival of reinforcements. These additional troops came up, after a long, hurried and exhausting march, to defend localities of which they were ignorant, and to fight a foe flushed with partial success, and already holding key points to further advance. Had our forces never been separated, the battle of Sharpsburg never would have been fought, and the Yankees would not have even the shadow of consolation for the loss of Harper's Ferry.

We reached Sharpsburg about daylight, on the morning of the 15th. The Yankees made their appearance that day, and some skirmishing and cannonading occurred. There was a great deal of artillery firing during the forenoon of the 16th; and late that afternoon, the Yankees crossed the Antietam, opposite the centre of my line, and made for the Hagerstown turnpike. Had we been in a condition to attack them, as they crossed, much damage might have been inflicted. But as yet there were but two weak divisions on the ground. Longstreet held the position south of the Boonsboro' turnpike, and I, that on the right. Hood's command was placed on my left to guard the Hagerstown pike. Just before sundown, I got up a battery (Lane's) of Cutt's battalion, to open upon the Yankee column advancing towards that pike, while Colonel Stephen Lee brought up another further on the right. These checked the Yankee advance, and enabled Jackson to take position on Hood's left, and covering any attempt to turn us in that direction. My ranks had been diminished by some additional straggling, and the morning of the 17th I had but three thousand infantry. I had, however, twenty-six pieces of artillery of my own,

and near sixty pieces of Cutt's battalion, temporarily under my command. Positions were selected for as many of these guns as could be used; but all the ground in my front was completely commanded by the long-range artillery of the Yankees on the other side of the Antietam, which concentrated their fire upon every gun that opened, and soon disabled or silenced it.

At daylight a brisk skirmish began along Hood's front, and Colquitt, Ripley and McRae (commanding Garland's brigade,) were moved up to his support. Hood's men always fight well, and they were handsomely supported by Colquitt and Ripley. The first line of the Yankees were broken, and our men pushed vigorously forward, but to meet another and yet another line. Colquitt had gone in with ten field officers; four were killed, five badly wounded, and the tenth had been stunned by a shell. The men were beginning to fall back, and efforts were made to rally them in the bed of an old road, nearly at right angles to the Hagerstown pike, and which had been their position previous to the advance. These efforts, however, were only partially successful. Most of the brigade took no further part in the action. Garland's brigade (Colonel McRae, commanding) had been much demoralized by the fight at South Mountain; but the men advanced with alacrity, secured a good position, and were fighting bravely, when Captain Thompson, fifth North Carolina, cried out, "They are flanking us!" This cry spread like an electric shock along the ranks, bringing up vivid recollections of the flank fire at South Mountain. In a moment they broke and fell to the rear. Colonel McRae, though wounded, remained on the field all day and succeeded in gathering up some stragglers, and personally rendered much efficient service. The twenty-third North Carolina regiment, of this brigade, was brought off by the gallant Lieutenant Colonel Johnston, and posted, by my order, in the old road already described.

Ripley's brigade had united with Walker's and fallen back with it behind the ridge to the left of this road and near to it. We had now lost all the ground wrested from the enemy, and were occupying the position held in the morning. But three of my brigades had been broken and much demoralized, and all of the artillery had been withdrawn from my front. Rodes and Anderson were in the old road, and some stragglers had been gathered up and placed upon their left. It was now apparent that the Yankees were massing in our front, and that their grand attack would be made upon my position, which was the centre of our line. I sent several urgent messages to General Lee for reinforcements, but before any arrived, a heavy force (since ascertained to be Franklin's corps,) advanced in three parallel lines with all the precision of a parade day, upon my two brigades. They met with a galling fire, however, recoiled and fell back, again advanced and again fell back, and finally lay down behind the crest of the hill, and kept up an irregular fire. I got a battery in position which partially enfiladed the Yankee line, and aided materially to check its advance. This battery was brought up by my aid, Lieutenant J. A. Reid, who received a painful wound in the discharge of that duty. In the meantime, General R. H. Anderson reported to

me with some three or four thousand men as reinforcements to my command. I directed him to form immediately behind my men. That gallant and accomplished officer was soon wounded, and the command devolved upon General Pryor. The Yankee fire had now nearly ceased, and but for an unfortunate blunder of Lieutenant Colonel Lightfoot, sixth Alabama, no further advance would have been made by them. General Rodes had observed a regiment lying down in his rear and not engaged. He says as the fire was now desultory and slack, I went to the troops referred to and found that they belonged to General Pryor's brigade. Their officers stated that they had been halted by some body—not General Pryor. Finding General P. in a few minutes, and informing him as to their conduct, he immediately ordered them forward. Returning towards the brigade, I met Lieutenant Colonel Lightfoot, sixth Alabama, looking for me. Upon his telling me that the right wing of the regiment was exposed to a terrible enfilade fire, which the enemy was enabled to deliver by their gaining somewhat upon Anderson, (General G. B.) I ordered him to hasten back and to throw his right wing back and out of the old road referred to. Instead of executing the order, he moved briskly to the rear of the regiment, and gave the command, "Sixth Alabama—about, face; forward, march." Major Hobson, of the fifth, seeing this, asked him if the order was intended for the whole brigade; he said, "Yes;" and thereupon the fifth and the other troops on their left, retreated. I did not see their retrograde movement until it was too late for me to rally them; and for this reason: Just as I was moving on after Lightfoot, I heard a shot strike Lieutenant Bemey, (aid) who was immediately behind me. Wheeling around, I found him falling, and that he had been struck in the face. He found that he could walk after I raised him. I followed him a few paces and watched him till he reached a barn, a short distance in the rear, where he first met some one to help him in case he needed it. As I turned towards the brigade, I was struck heavily by a piece of shell on my thigh. At first I thought that the wound was serious; but finding, upon examination, that it was slight, I turned towards the brigade, when I discovered it, without visible cause to me, retreating in confusion. I hastened to intercept it at the Hagerstown road. I found though, that with the exception of a few men from the twenty-sixth, twelfth and third, and a few under Major Hobson, of the fifth, not more than forty in all, the brigade had disappeared from this portion of the field. This small number, together with some Mississippians and North Carolinians, about one hundred and fifty in all, I rallied and stationed behind a small ridge leading from the Hagerstown road. General G. B. Anderson still nobly held his ground; but the Yankees began to pour through the gap made by the retreat of Rodes. Anderson himself was mortally wounded, and his brigade was totally routed.

Colonel Bennett, of the fourteenth, and Major Sillers, of the thirtieth North Carolina regiments, rallied a portion of their men. There were no troops near to hold the centre, except a few hundred rallied from various brigades. The Yankees crossed the old road, which we

had occupied in the morning, and occupied a corn-field and orchard in advance of it. They had now got within a few hundred yards of the hill, which commanded Sharpsburg and our rear. Affairs looked very critical. I found a battery concealed in a corn-field, and ordered it to move out and open upon the Yankee columns. This proved to be Bryce's South Carolina battery. It moved out most gallantly, although exposed to a terrible direct and reverse fire from the long-range Yankee artillery across the Antietam. A caisson exploded, but the battery was unlimbered, and, with grape and cannister, drove the Yankees back. I was now satisfied that the Yankees were so demoralized that a single regiment of fresh men could drive the whole of them in our front across the Antietam. I got up about two hundred men who said that they were willing to advance to the attack, if I would lead them. We met, however, with a warm reception, and the little command was broken and dispersed. Major Hobson and Lieutenant Gaff, of fifth Alabama, acquitted themselves handsomely in this charge. Colonel Iverson, twentieth North Carolina, Colonel Christie, twenty-third North Carolina, Captain Garrett, fifth North Carolina, Adjutant Taylor and Lieutenant Pierce, of the same regiment, had gathered up about two hundred men, and I sent them to the right to attack the Yankees in flank. They drove them back a short distance; but, in turn, were repulsed. These two attacks, however, had a most happy effect. The Yankees were completely deceived by their boldness, and induced to believe that there was a large force in our centre. They made no farther attempt to pierce our centre, except, on a small scale, hereafter to be mentioned.

It was now about four P. M., and Burnside's corps was massing to attack on our right. A heavy column was advancing up the Boonsboro' pike, and I ordered up some two or three hundred men, under command of Colonel G. T. Anderson, to the hill already described, commanding Sharpsburg. But they were exposed to an enfilade fire, from a battery near the church, on the Hagerstown pike, and compelled to retire to another hill. About thirty men, under Lieutenant Colonel Betts, twelfth Alabama, of my division, remained as supports to my division batteries, under Jones, Hardaway and Bondurant. The Yankee columns were allowed to come within easy range, when a sudden storm of grape and cannister drove them back in confusion. Betts' men must have given them a very hot fire, as Burnside reported that he had met three heavy columns on the hill. It is difficult to imagine how thirty men could so multiply themselves, as to appear to the frightened Yankees to be three heavy columns. On our extreme right, however, the Yankees had been more successful. They had crossed the Antietam, and were driving our men before them. Our forces, (supposed to be A. P. Hill's or D. R. Jones') had fallen back nearly to the road in rear of Sharpsburg, and the Yankees advanced in fine style to the crests commanding it. A few hundred yards more, and our only line of retreat would be cut off. I called Carter's attention to this imposing force of Yankees, and he opened upon them with three guns, aided by two, I think, of the Donaldsonville artillery. The firing was beautiful, and the Yankee columns (one thousand two-

hundred yards distant) were routed by this artillery fire alone, unaided by musketry. This is the only instance, I have ever known, of infantry being broken by artillery fire at long range. It speaks badly for the courage of Burnside's men.

Captain Carter says: "The next movement of the enemy was to advance a heavy column on the extreme right, bearing down on what I supposed to have been the right wing of A. P. Hill's division. Our troops gave way entirely before the column. With three pieces of my battery, aided by two of Lieutenant Elliott's, this column was shattered and driven back, without the assistance (so far as I know) of any infantry whatever. Generals D. H. Hill and Rodes witnessed the firing." Our troops advanced, now, on the extreme right, and Burnside's whole corps was driven back. This virtually closed the operations of the day. But a movement of a rather farcical character now took place. General Pryor had gathered quite a respectable force behind a stone wall, on the Hagerstown road, and Colonel G. T. Anderson had about a regiment behind a hill, immediately to the right of this road. A Maine regiment, the twenty-first (I think) came down to this hill, wholly unconscious that there were any Confederate troops near it. A shout and a volley informed them of their dangerous neighborhood. The Yankee apprehension is acute, the idea was soon taken in, and was followed by the most rapid running I ever saw. The night closed in, with our troops in the centre, about two hundred yards in rear of the position held in the morning. We held, however, two-thirds of the battle-field, including the ground gained by General A. P. Hill on our right. The only ground lost was in the centre, where the chief Yankee attack had been made, and where there had been the severest fighting and the heaviest loss to both parties. The skulkers and cowards had straggled off, and only the bravest and truest men of my division had been left. It is true that hunger and exhaustion had nearly unfitted these brave men for battle. Our wagons had been sent off across the river on Sunday, and for three days the men had been sustaining life on green corn and such cattle as they could kill in the fields. In charging through an apple orchard at the Yankees, with the immediate prospect of death before them, I noticed men eagerly devouring apples. The unparalleled loss of the division shows, that spite of hunger and fatigue, the officers and men fought most heroically in the two battles in Maryland. The division lost three thousand out of less than nine thousand engaged at Seven Pines. Four thousand out of ten thousand in the battles around Richmond. But now, the loss was thirty-two hundred and forty-one (3,241) in two battles out of less than five thousand engaged; that is, the loss was nearly two-thirds of the entire force. Of these, nine hundred and twenty-five (925) are reported missing. Doubtless a large number of the missing fell into the hands of the Yankees when wounded. But even supposing that none of the missing were killed or wounded, still we have twenty-three hundred and sixteen (2,316) reported killed and wounded, or nearly one-half of those taken into action. Among these was, one brigadier general killed, one mortally wounded, and three brigade commanders wounded. Four colonels killed,

eight colonels wounded. One lieutenant colonel killed, seven lieutenant colonels wounded. Two majors killed and two majors wounded. There were but thirty-four field officers present in the battles, and only nine left when they were over. The mortality was equally great among company commanders, and several regiments were left under command of lieutenants. Still the stubborn spirit of the men was not subdued. From fifteen to seventeen hundred were gathered together on the morning of the 18th, and placed in a position more sheltered than the one occupied the day before, and, I think, would have fought with determination if not with enthusiasm, had the Yankees made an advance. Our northern brethren were too much shattered to renew the contest, and that night we recrossed the Potomac.

The battle of Sharpsburg was a success, so far as the failure of the Yankees to carry the position they assailed. It would, however, have been a glorious victory for us, but for three causes. 1. The separation of our forces. Had McLaws and R. H. Anderson been there earlier in the morning the battle would not have lasted two hours, and would have been signally disastrous to the Yankees. 2. The bad handling of our artillery. This could not cope with the superior weight, calibre, range, and number of the Yankee guns. Hence it ought only to have been used against masses of infantry. On the contrary, our guns were made to reply to the Yankee guns, and were smashed up or withdrawn before they could be effectually turned against massive columns of attack. An artillery duel between the Washington artillery and the Yankee batteries across the Antietam, on the 16th, was the most melancholy farce in the war. 3. The enormous straggling. The battle was fought with less than thirty thousand men. Had all our stragglers been up, McClellan's army would have been completely crushed or annihilated. Doubtless, the want of shoes, want of food and physical exhaustion had kept many brave men from being with the army. But thousands of thieving poltroons had kept away from sheer cowardice. The straggler is generally a thief and always a coward, lost to all sense of shame; he can only be kept in ranks by a strict and sanguinary discipline.

#### LIST OF CASUALTIES.

	<i>Killed.</i>	<i>Wounded.</i>	<i>Missing.</i>
Rodes' brigade,	-	111	289
Ripley's brigade,	-	110	506
Garland's brigade,	-	46	210
Anderson's brigade,	-	64	299
Colquitt's brigade,	-	129	518
Artillery,	-	4	30
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total,	-	464	1,852
			925

In this sad list, we have especially to mourn many distinguished officers. Brigadier General Garland was killed at South Mountain,

the most fearless man I ever knew, a Christian hero, a ripe scholar and most accomplished gentleman. Brigadier General G. B. Anderson was mortally wounded at Sharpsburg, a high-toned, honorable, conscientious, Christian soldier, highly gifted and lovely in all the qualities that adorn a man. Colonel C. C. Tew, second North Carolina regiment was one of the most finished scholars on the continent, and had no superior as a soldier in the field. Colonel B. B. Gayle, twelfth Alabama, a most gallant and accomplished officer, was killed at South Mountain. Colonel W. P. Barclay, twenty-third Georgia, the hero of South Mountain, was killed at Sharpsburg. There, too, fell those gallant Christian soldiers, Colonel Levi B. Smith, twenty-seventh Georgia, and Lieutenant Colonel J. M. Newton, of the sixth Georgia. The modest and heroic Major Tracy, of the sixth Georgia, met there, too, a bloody grave. The lamented Captain Plane, of that regiment, deserves special mention; of him it could be truly said that he shrank from no danger, no fatigue and no exposure. Major Robert S. Smith, fourth Georgia, fell, fighting most heroically, at Sharpsburg. He had received a military education, and gave promise of eminence in his profession. Captain James B. Atwell, twentieth North Carolina, deserves to live in the memory of his countrymen for almost unsurpassed gallantry. After having greatly distinguished himself in the capture of the Yankee battery at South Mountain, he fell, heroically fighting, at Sharpsburg. Brigadier General Ripley received a severe wound in the throat, from a minie ball, which would have proven fatal, but for passing through his cravat. After his wound was dressed, he heroically returned to the field, and remained to the close of the day with his brigade. Brigadier General Rodes received a painful contusion from a shell, but remained with his command. Colonel McRae, commanding brigade, was struck in the forehead, but gallantly remained on the field. Colonel Bennett, fourteenth North Carolina regiment, who had conducted himself most nobly throughout, won my special admiration for the heroism he exhibited, at the moment of receiving what he supposed to be a mortal wound. Colonel DeRosset, third North Carolina, received a severe wound at Sharpsburg, which, I fear, will forever deprive the South of his most valuable services. Colonel F. M. Parker, thirtieth North Carolina, a modest, brave and accomplished officer, was severely wounded at Sharpsburg. Colonel J. B. Gordon, sixth Alabama, the Chevalier Bayard of the army, received five wounds at Sharpsburg, before he would quit the field. The heroic Colonel Fry, thirteenth Alabama, and Colonel O'Neal, twenty-sixth Alabama, who had both been wounded at Seven Pines, were once more wounded severely at Sharpsburg, while nobly doing their duty. Lieutenant Colonel Pickens, twelfth Alabama, and Major Redden, twenty-sixth Alabama, were both wounded at South Mountain, the former severely. They greatly distinguished themselves in that battle. Lieutenant Colonel J. M. Lightfoot, sixth Alabama, and Lieutenant Colonel Johnston, fourteenth North Carolina, were wounded at Sharpsburg, the latter slightly. Major Thurston, third North Carolina, received a painful contusion, but did not leave the field. Lieutenant Colonel Ruffin,

thirteenth North Carolina, remained with his regiment on South Mountain, after receiving three painful wounds. Lieutenant Colonel Betts, thirteenth Alabama, was slightly wounded. Lieutenant Colonel Zachry, twenty-seventh Georgia, had just recovered from a severe wound received before Richmond, to receive a more serious one at Sharpsburg. Lieutenant Colonel Best and Major Huggins, twenty-third Georgia, gallant and meritorious officers, were severely wounded at Sharpsburg.

It becomes my grateful task to speak in the highest terms of my brigade commanders, two of whom sealed their devotion to their country with their lives. Major Ratchford, Major Pierson, chief of artillery, and Lieutenant J. A. Reid, of my staff, were conspicuous for their gallantry. Captain Overton, serving temporarily with me, was wounded at Sharpsburg, but remained under fire until I urged him to leave the field. Captain West and Lieutenant T. J. Moore, ordnance officers, discharged faithfully their duty, and rendered important service on the field at South Mountain. Major Archer Anderson, adjutant, had been wounded in crossing the Potomac, and I lost his valuable services in Maryland. Sergeant Hanneling and privates Thomas Jones and Minter, of the couriers, acquitted themselves handsomely.

Brigadier General Rodes reports, as specially deserving notice for their gallantry, Colonel O'Neal and Major Redden, twenty-sixth Alabama; Colonel J. B. Gordon, Lieutenant Colonel Lightfoot, Lieutenant R. H. Larrey, Sergeant J. B. Hancock, sixth Alabama; Major E. L. Hobson, Captain T. M. Riley, Lieutenant J. M. Gaff, Sergeant A. Swicegood, Color-Corporal Joshua Smith, fifth Alabama; Colonel C. A. Battles, Captain E. S. Ready, (badly wounded,) Lieutenant J. J. Lake, (killed,) Lieutenant E. L. Randle, (wounded,) Sergeant N. M. Howard, Sergeant William Taylor, Corporal Josiah Ely, Sergeant J. W. Hauxthall, private Joseph Lee, Sergeant Jas. Stewart, Sergeant Henry Donnalson, Sergeant George Ellison, and private Hollanquist, third Alabama.

Brigadier General Colquitt reports, in like manner, N. B. Neusan, color-sergeant, J. J. Powell, W. W. Glover, H. M. James and N. B. Lane, color-guard, sixth Georgia; Corporal John Cooper, Corporal Joseph J. Wood, private J. W. Tompkins, privates B. C. La Prade, L. B. Lamnah, A. D. Simmons, W. Smith, J. M. Feltman and J. C. Penn. Captain Arnold, sixth Georgia regiment, who commanded a battalion of skirmishers at South Mountain and Sharpsburg, is entitled to the highest commendation for his skill and gallantry. Captain Garrison, commanding twenty-eighth Georgia, was severely wounded at the head of his regiment. Captain Banning, twenty-eighth Georgia regiment, was distinguished for his intrepid coolness, fighting in the ranks, with gun in hand, and stimulating his men by his words and example. W. R. Johnson and William Goff, twenty-eighth Georgia, Sergeant J. L. Moore, privates W. A. Estes, J. S. Wingate, W. S. Walker, Isaac Hundley, Thomas Sudler, J. J. Gordon, Simson Williamson, Lieutenant B. A. Bowen, Lieutenant R. S. Tomme, Lieutenant L. D. Ford, First Sergeant Herring, Sergeant T.

P. W. Bullard, Sergeant J. J. Adams, privates Mosely, McCall, J. M. Vause, J. Hutchings, Thomas Argo, J. S. Denniss, W. C. Claybanks, Joseph Herron, W. D. Tingle and Corporal J. A. Lee, thirteenth Alabama.

The officers commanding the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth Georgia regiments report that it is impossible for them to make distinctions where so many acted with distinguished bravery. In the twenty-seventh, every commissioned officer, except one, was killed or wounded at Sharpsburg, and this sole survivor was unwilling to discriminate among so many brave men. Brigadier General Doles (now commanding Ripley's brigade,) pays a tribute to the memory of Major Robert S. Smith, fourth Georgia, and speaks in the most complimentary terms of Colonel DeRosset, and Major Thurston, third North Carolina, (the former severely, and the latter slightly wounded,) and Captains Meares, McNair and Williams, of the same regiment. Lieutenant Colonel H. A. Brown and Captain J. A. Hannell, acting Major of the first North Carolina regiment, are also highly commended. Lieutenant Colonel Phil Cock, Captains Willis, De Graffenreid and Lieutenants Hawkens, Bisel, Hulbert, Gay, (wounded,) Stephens, Exell, Snead, Cobb, (killed,) Macon, (severely wounded,) "all commended themselves to my special notice by their gallant and meritorious conduct." Captain Rey, commanding forty-fourth Georgia, and Captain Reid, Assistant Adjutant General, are equally commended. Assistant Surgeon William P. Young, remained on the field after he was wounded, caring for the wounded, and fell into the hands of the enemy. Privates Thomas S. Cartright, Joseph S. Richardson and Henry E. Welch, fourth Georgia, are mentioned with distinction. The first named fell with the colors of his regiment in his hand. Richardson was wounded. Privates R. Dudley Hill and Thomas J. Dinglers, two lads in the forty-fourth Georgia, attracted, in an especial manner, the attention of their commander, by their extraordinary daring. Lieutenant Colonel Brown, of the first North Carolina regiment, who commanded in both battles in Maryland, says that all did their duty in his regiment, and he cannot discriminate.

The following officers and men, of Garland's brigade, are specially commended for their good conduct: Colonels D. R. McRae, Iverson and Christie; Lieutenant Colonels Johnston and Ruffin. The latter was wounded three times at South Mountain, and exhibited the highest qualities of the officer and soldier. Captains Garret, Robinson, Brookfield, Adjutant J. M. Taylor and Lieutenant Peirce, of the fifth; Captain Atwell (killed) and Lieutenant Caldwell, of the twentieth, conducted themselves with soldier-like gallantry. Lieutenants King, Ray, Malone, Duguid, Felton and Sutton, Sergeants Riddick, Ingram, Pearce, Johnson and Dennis, privates, Hays, Ellis, Campbell, Hillard and Rinsart, of the same regiment, are highly commended by their regimental commanders. Sergeant A. W. Fullenwider, John W. Glenn, C. W. Bennet and privates E. F. Howell and W. C. Watkins, of the twenty-third North Carolina, exhibited extraordinary coolness and daring. Sergeant Fullenwider has been six times wounded during the war, but still lives to perform

more heroic deeds. Private David Jones, twentieth North Carolina, was specially distinguished as a bold and intelligent scout at South Mountain.

In Anderson's brigade, the field officers present in the battles, Colonel Tew, second North Carolina, (killed,) Colonel Grimes, fourth North Carolina, Colonel Bennett, (wounded,) and Lieutenant Colonel W. C. Johnston, (slightly wounded,) both of the fourteenth North Carolina, Colonel Parker, (severely wounded,) and Major Sellers, both of the thirtieth North Carolina, are all worthy of the gratitude of their country, for gallant and meritorious services. Colonel Grimes was disabled by the kick of a horse, from being with his regiment (fourth North Carolina) at Sharpsburg, and unfit for duty for months afterwards. The fourth thus lost his valuable services. This gallant regiment, which has never been surpassed by any troops in the world, for gallantry, subordination and propriety, was commanded by the heroic Captain Marsh, and, after his fall, by the equally heroic Captain Latham, who shared the same fate. *All* the officers of this noble regiment, present at Sharpsburg, were killed or wounded. Their names deserve to be preserved. Captains Marsh, Latham and Osborne, Lieutenants Stansill, Colton, Allen, Parker, Brown, Weaver, Crawford and Bonner, Sergeants John Troutman and J. W. Shinn, Corporals J. A. Cowan and H. H. Barnes, and private J. D. Barton, of this regiment, were greatly distinguished for their courage. Private J. B. Stinson, of same regiment, acting as courier to General Anderson, was wounded in three places at Sharpsburg, and there, as on every other battle-field, behaved most nobly. Colonel Bennet, of the fourteenth North Carolina, commands Captains Jones, Freeman, Bell, Debn and Weir, Lieutenants Liles, Mitchell, Harney, Shankle, Bevers, Threadgill, Meachem, Sergeants Jenkins, McLester, Corporal Crump, privates McGregor, Beasley, Odell and Morgan. The second North Carolina, after the death of the gallant and accomplished Tew, was commanded by Captain Roberts, since resigned. The thirtieth North Carolina, after the fall of its gallant colonel, was commanded by Major Sillers, a brave and meritorious officer.

I much regret that the officers of these two regiments have declined to present the names of those specially distinguished for coolness and courage. The thirteenth North Carolina, under Lieutenant Colonel Ruffin, greatly distinguished itself at South Mountain. I regret that I have no report from that heroic officer, now absent sick. He often, however, spoke of the great gallantry of Sergeant Walter S. Williamson.

Respectfully submitted,

D. H. HILL,  
*Major General.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL A. P. HILL.

HEADQUARTERS LIGHT DIVISION,  
Camp Gregg, February 25th, 1863. }

Lieutenant Colonel C. J. FAULKNER, *A. A. G.*,  
*Secnd Army Corps*:

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my division, from the crossing of the Rapidan, August 20th, to the repulse of the enemy at Castleman's ferry, November 5th, inclusive:

The division was composed of the brigades of Generals Branch, Gregg, Field, Pender, Archer and Colonel Thomas, with the batteries of Braxton, Latham, Crenshaw, McIntosh, Davidson and Pegram, under Lieutenant Colonel L. Walker, chief of artillery.

The march was without incident of importance, until arriving at the ford opposite Warrenton Springs. The morning after arriving, (Sunday, the 24th,) I was directed to occupy the hills crowning this ford. My batteries were placed in eligible positions, the brigades being sheltered in rear of them. The enemy planted a number of batteries upon the hills across the river, and about ten, A. M., opened a heavy fire upon my batteries, which was continued without intermission until late in the afternoon. My batteries did not reply to this fire, but when their heavy columns of infantry advanced down the road towards the Springs, simultaneously the batteries of Braxton, Latham, Davidson, McIntosh, and Pegram poured in such a storm of shot that the enemy were scattered in the greatest confusion. Twice was this repeated. My own loss was but eighteen, that of the enemy must have been heavy in comparison. At nightfall, I was relieved by Brigadier General Hood, and the next morning commenced the flank movement to Manassas. A march of thirty-four miles was made in two days.

Wednesday morning, at Manassas Junction, Branch's brigade had a sharp encounter with a battery supported by the twelfth Pennsylvania cavalry. They were soon dispersed.

Field, Pender, Archer and Thomas were directed to the right and towards the railroad bridge, and soon encountered the New Jersey brigade of General Taylor. They had just arrived from Alexandria, disembarked from the cars, and were forming line of battle when they were attacked, and routed completely, General Taylor mortally wounded, and two hundred prisoners taken; the train in which they came, and the railroad bridge were destroyed. That night, about twelve o'clock, the depot buildings, with an immense amount of commissary stores, and about two miles of loaded freight cars were burned, and, at one o'clock, I moved my division to Centreville. At ten, A. M., moved upon the Warrenton pike, towards the stone bridge, when I received an order from General Jackson, dated battle-field of Manassas, eight, A. M., that "the enemy were in full retreat, and to move down to the fords and intercept him." But having just seen

two intercepted despatches from Pope to McDowell, ordering the formation of his line of battle for the next day, on Manassas plains, I deemed it best to push on and join General Jackson. That evening, (Thursday,) there was a little artillery practice by some of my batteries on the enemy's infantry.

#### BATTLE OF MANASSAS.

Friday morning, in accordance with orders from General Jackson, I occupied the line of the unfinished railroad, my extreme left resting near Sudley's ford, my right near the point where the road strikes the open field, Gregg, Field and Thomas in the front line—Gregg on the left and Field on the right—with Branch, Pender and Archer as supports. My batteries were in the open field in rear of the infantry, the nature of my position being such as to preclude the effective use of much artillery. The evident intention of the enemy this day was to turn our left and overwhelm Jackson's corps before Longstreet came up, and, to accomplish this, the most persistent and furious onsets were made, by column after column of infantry, accompanied by numerous batteries of artillery. Soon my reserves were all in, and up to six o'clock, my division, assisted by the Louisiana brigade of General Hays, commanded by Colonel Forno, with an heroic courage and obstinacy almost beyond parallel, had met and repulsed six distinct and separate assaults, a portion of the time the majority of the men being without a cartridge. The reply of the gallant Gregg to a message of mine, is worthy of notice, "Tell General Hill that my ammunition is exhausted, but that I will hold my position with the bayonet." The enemy prepared for a last and determined attempt. Their seried masses, overwhelming superiority of numbers, and bold bearing, made the chance of victory to tremble in the balance; my own division, exhausted by seven hours' unremitting fighting, hardly one round per man remaining, and weakened in all things, save its unconquerable spirit. Casting about for help, fortunately it was here reported to me that the brigades of Generals Lawton and Early were near by, and, sending for them, they promptly moved to my front at the most opportune moment, and this last charge met the same disastrous fate that had befallen those preceding. Having received an order from General Jackson to endeavor to avoid a general engagement, my commanders of brigades contented themselves with repulsing the enemy, and following them up but a few hundred yards.

During the night of the 29th, my brigades were engaged in refilling cartridge-boxes, and generally putting themselves in condition for the morrow's fight.

Brigadier General Field was severely wounded, and I regret that his invaluable assistance was, in consequence, lost to me during the balance of the campaign. His gallant bearing and soldierly qualities gave him unbounded influence over his men, and they were ever ready to follow where he led: The command of his brigade devolved upon Colonel Brockenbrough, of the fortieth Virginia.

The gallant Forno was also stricken down, with, as was supposed at

the time, a mortal wound. Colonel Strong succeeded to his command.

General Pender was knocked down by a shell, but, as once before, refused to leave the field.

Archer's horse was killed under him. Branch, Pender, Brockenbrough and Strong were brought from the front and placed in reserve.

On the 30th, about two o'clock, the enemy again made an attack alonge our whole line. The attack on my part of the line was gallantly resisted by Archer and Thomas.—Gregg still holding the extreme left. This onset was so fierce, and in such force, that at first some headway was made, but throwing in Pender and Brockenbrough, their advance was again checked, and eventually repulsed with great loss. Later in the evening, I sent a message to General Jackson that I had ordered my whole line to advance, and it was approved, and he directed me to advance in echelon of brigades. This order was promptly carried out; Pender, Archer, Thomas and Branch steadily advancing. Branch on the extreme left, thrown considerably back, met no resistance, and Brockenbrough, on the extreme right, being separated from his own divison by one or two of Taliaferro's brigades, advanced in conjunction with them. Gregg and Strong were held back to meet a threatened movement on my left. The three brigades of Pender, Archer and Thomas, however, held together, and drove everything before them, capturing two batteries, many prisoners, and resting that night on Bull Run; and the ground thus won, was occupied that night. These brigades had penetrated so far within the enemy's lines, that Captain Ashe, A. A. G. to General Pender, was taken prisoner that night, returning from my headquarters to his own brigade.

The batteries of Braxton, Pegram, McIntosh and Crenshaw were gallantly served during this fight, and did yeoman's service. The battle being thus gloriously won, my men slept among the dead and dying enemy.

My loss was one hundred and ninety-nine killed, thirteen hundred and eight wounded; total, fifteen hundred and seven, of which Gregg's brigade lost six hundred and nineteen.

The brave Colonels Marshall, of South Carolina, and Forbes of Tennessee, were killed; Lieutenant Colonel Leadbetter, of South Carolina, also met a soldier's death. Colonels Barnes, Edwards and McGowan, Lieutenant Colonels McCorkle, Farron and McCready, and Major Brockman, of Gregg's brigade, were wounded.

The stubborn tenacity with which Gregg's brigade held its position this day, is worthy of highest commendation.

### Ox Hill.

Monday evening, September 1st, the divisions arrived near Germantown, on the Little river turnpike, and it was understood the enemy were in force, in a strong position, known as Ox Hill, and prepared to dispute our further passage. By direction of General Jaekson, I sent forward the brigades of Branch and Brockenbrough

to feel and engage the enemy. This battle commenced under the most unfavorable circumstances, a heavy, blinding rain-storm directly in the faces of my men. These two brigades gallantly engaged the enemy, Branch being exposed to a very heavy fire in front and in his flank. Gregg, Pender, Thomas and Archer were successively thrown in. The enemy obstinately contested the ground, and it was not until the Federal Generals Kearney and Stevens had fallen in front of Thomas' brigade, that they were driven from the ground. They did not, however, retire far, until later during the night, when they entirely disappeared. The brunt of this fight was borne by Branch, Gregg and Pender. Colonel Riddick and Lieutenant Colonel Miller, of Pender's brigade, were mortally wounded, and Captain Store, commanding sixteenth North Carolina, and Major Rivers, of Thomas' brigade, severely so.

My loss was thirty-nine killed and two hundred and sixty-seven wounded; total, three hundred and six.

On the 5th September, the division crossed into Maryland, near Leesburg, and, on the 11th, recrossed into Virginia at Williamsport, advanced upon Martinsburg, skirmishing with the enemy's pickets, entered the town on the 12th, and caused General White with some three thousand men, to fall back upon Harper's Ferry. A large quantity of commissary and quartermaster stores were taken at Martinsburg.

Saturday, the 13th, arrived at Harper's Ferry, my division being in advance.

On Sunday afternoon, the necessary signals from the Loudon and Maryland Heights having notified us that all was ready, I was ordered by General Jackson "to move along the left bank of the Shenandoah, and thus turn the enemy's left flank, and enter Harper's Ferry." The enemy occupied a ridge of hills known as Bolivar Heights, extending from the Potomac to the Shenandoah, naturally strong, but rendered very formidable by extensive earthworks. Having first shelled the woods over which my route lay, I moved obliquely to my right until I struck the Shenandoah. Moving down the Shenandoah, I discovered an eminence crowning the extreme left of the enemy's line, bare of all earthworks, the only obstacles being abattis of fallen timber. The enemy occupied this hill with infantry, but no artillery. Branch and Gregg were ordered to continue the march along the river, and during the night to take advantage of the ravines, cutting the precipitous banks of the river, and establish themselves on the plain to the left and rear of the enemy's works. Pender, Archer and Brockenbrough were directed to gain the crest of the hill before mentioned; Thomas followed as a reserve. The execution of this movement was entrusted to General Pender, his own brigade being commanded by Colonel Brewer. This was accomplished with but slight resistance, and the fate of Harper's Ferry was sealed. Lieutenant Colonel Walker was directed to bring up his guns, and establish them in the position thus gained. This was done during the night, by the indomitable resolution and energy of Colonel Walker and his adjutant, Lieutenant Chamberlaine, ably seconded by the cap-

tains of batteries. Generals Branch and Gregg, had also gained the position desired, and daybreak found them in rear of the enemy's line of defence. General Pender, with Thomas in support, moved his brigades to within one hundred and fifty yards of the works, and were sheltered as much as possible from the fire of the enemy. At dawn, Lieutenant Colonel Walker opened a rapid enfilade fire from all his batteries, at about one thousand yards' range. The enemy replied vigorously. In an hour, the enemy's fire seeming to be pretty well silenced, the batteries were ordered to cease, and this was the signal for storming the works. General Pender had commenced his advance, when the enemy again opening, Pegram and Crenshaw were run forward to within four hundred yards, and quickly coming into battery, poured in a damaging fire. The enemy now displayed the white flag, and Lieutenant Chamberlain was sent in to know if they surrendered. This was soon ascertained to be the fact, and the garrison, &c., was surrendered by General White, Colonel D. S. Miles, the commanding officer, having been mortally wounded. By direction of General Jackson, I granted General White the most liberal terms, and regret to report that this magnanimity was not appreciated by the enemy, as the wagons which were loaned to carry off the private baggage of officers were not returned for nearly two months, and not until repeated calls had been made for them. When I entered the works of the enemy, which was only a few moments after the white flag had been shown, there was apparently no organization of any kind—that had ceased to exist. The fruits of this victory were eleven thousand prisoners, about twelve thousand stand of arms, seventy pieces of artillery, harness and horses, a large number of wagons, commissary, quartermaster and ordnance stores.

My loss was three killed and sixty-six wounded.

#### SHARPSBURG.

By direction of General Jackson, I remained at Harper's Ferry until the morning of the 17th, when, at half past six, A. M., I received an order from General Lee to move to Sharpsburg. Leaving Thomas with his brigade to complete the removal of the captured property, my division was put in motion half past seven, A. M. The head of my column arrived upon the battle-field of Sharpsburg, a distance of seventeen miles, at half-past two, and, reporting in person to General Lee, he directed me to take position on our right. Brigadier General D. R. Jones, commanding on our right, gave me such information as my ignorance of the ground made necessary. My troops were rapidly thrown into position—Pender and Brockenbrough on the extreme right, looking to a road which crossed the Antietam, near its mouth, and Branch, Gregg and Archer, extending to the left and connecting with D. R. Jones' division. McIntosh's battery had been sent forward to strengthen Jones' right, weakened by troops withdrawn to our left and centre. Braxton's battery, commanded by Lieutenant Marye, (Captain Braxton acting as chief of artillery) was placed upon a commanding point on Gregg's right, and Crenshaw and

Pegram on a hill to my left, which gave them a wide field of fire. My troops were not in a moment too soon. The enemy had already advanced in three lines, had broken through Jones' division, captured McIntosh's battery, and were in the full tide of success. With a yell of defiance, Archer charged them, retook McIntosh's guns, and drove them back pell mell. Branch and Gregg, with their old veterans, sternly held their ground, and pouring in destructive volleys, the tide of the enemy surged back, and breaking in confusion, passed out of sight. During this attack, Pender's brigade was moved from my right to the centre, but the enemy were driven back without actively engaging his brigade. The three brigades of my division actively engaged did not number over two thousand men, and these, with the help of my splendid batteries, drove back Burnside's corps of fifteen thousand men.

The Confederacy has to mourn the loss of a gallant soldier and accomplished gentleman, who fell in this battle, at the head of his brigade, Brigadier General L. O'B. Branch, of North Carolina. He was my senior brigadier, and one to whom I could have entrusted the command of the division with all confidence.

General Gregg, of South Carolina, was wounded, and the brave Colonel Barnes mortally so. My gallant Captain Pregram, of the artillery, was also wounded, for the first time.

My loss was sixty-three killed and two hundred and eighty-three wounded. Total, three hundred and forty-six.

We lay upon the field of battle that night, and until the next night at one o'clock, when my division was silently withdrawn, and, as directed by General Lee, covered the retirement of our army. My division crossed the Potomac, into Virginia, about ten A. M., the next morning, every wagon and piece of artillery having been safely put on the Virginia shore. I bivouacked that night, 19th, about five miles from Shepherdstown.

#### SHEPHERDSTOWN.

On the morning of the 20th, at half-past six, I was directed by General Jackson to take my division and drive across the river some brigades of the enemy, who had crossed during the night, driven off General Pendleton's artillery, capturing four pieces, and were making preparations to hold their position. Arriving opposite Boteler's ford, and about half mile therefrom, I formed my line of battle in two lines—the first, the brigades of Pender, Gregg and Thomas, under command of General Gregg, and the second, Lane, (Branch's brigade) Archer and Brockenbough, under the command of General Archer.

The enemy had lined the opposite hills with some seventy pieces of artillery, and the infantry, who had crossed, lined the crest of the high banks on the Virginia shore. My lines advanced simultaneously, and soon encountered the enemy. This advance was made in the face of the most tremendous fire of artillery I ever saw, and too much praise cannot be awarded my regiment for their steady, unwavering

step. It was as if each man felt that the fate of the army was centred in himself. The infantry opposition in front of Gregg's centre and right was but trifling, and soon brushed away. The enemy, however, massed in front of Pender, and extending, endeavored to turn his left. General Pender became hotly engaged, and informing Archer of his danger, he (Archer) moved by the left flank, and forming on Pender's left, a simultaneous, daring charge was made, and the enemy driven pell mell into the river. Then commenced the most terrible slaughter that this war has yet witnessed. The broad surface of the Potomac was blue with the floating bodies of our foe. But few escaped to tell the tale. By their own account they lost three thousand men killed and drowned from one brigade alone. Some two hundred prisoners were taken.

My own loss was, thirty killed, and two hundred and thirty-one wounded. Total, two hundred and sixty-one.

This was a wholesome lesson to the enemy, and taught them to know that it may be dangerous sometimes to press a retreating army.

In this battle I did not use a piece of artillery. My division performed its share in the destruction of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, and about the 1st November, took position at Castleman's Ferry, near Snicker's Gap. November 5th, Archer's and Thomas' brigades being on picket at the ferry with Pegram's and Latham's batteries, the enemy made an attempt to cross the river, but were handsomely repulsed by the nineteenth Georgia, and the batteries, with a loss of two hundred men.

During this campaign, the especial good conduct of Colonels Brewer, Mallory, Folsom and Major C. C. Cole, deserves mention. Captain Wright, of Georgia, commanding my escort, was invaluable to me, and proved himself a cool, clear-headed fighter.

My thanks are due my staff for their hearty co-operation and intelligent transmission of my orders under a fire frequently uncomfortably hot; Major R. C. Morgan, assistant adjutant general; Major Wingate, Captain R. H. Adams, signal officers; Lieutenant Murray Taylor, aid-de-camp, and Lieutenant Camfield, of my escort.

My loss during this series of battles, was, three hundred and forty-eight killed, two thousand two hundred and nine wounded. Total, two thousand five hundred and fifty-seven.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. P. HILL,  
*Major General commanding Light Division.*

**GENERAL SUMMARY OF KILLED AND WOUNDED in  
the Division of Major General A. P. Hill.**

<b>DATE OF BATTLES.</b>	<b>KILLED.</b>						<b>WOUNDED.</b>						<b>TOTAL KILLED AND WOUNDED.</b>				
	<b>Brig. Gen'l's.</b>	<b>Colonels.</b>	<b>Lt Colonels.</b>	<b>Majors.</b>	<b>Captains.</b>	<b>Lieutenants.</b>	<b>N. C. Officers.</b>	<b>Privates.</b>	<b>Brig. Gen'l's.</b>	<b>Colonels.</b>	<b>Lt. Colonels.</b>	<b>Majors.</b>	<b>Captains.</b>	<b>Lieutenants.</b>	<b>N. C. Officers.</b>	<b>Privates.</b>	
August 24th.....							5	6							2	10	18
August 27th.....															2	11	20
August 28th.....															3	3	
August 29th & 30th .....	1	1	5	14	25	153	2	4	1	3	28	78	130	1,062	1,507		
September 1st.....			5	2	32		1	1	1	1	5	11	25	223	306		
September 14th.....						1					1			2	47	54	
September 15 <sup>th</sup> .....						2					1			1	1	15	
September 17th.....	1		1	2	16	43	1	1			8	8	39	226	346		
September 18th.....			1	1	1						1	3	3	17	26		
September 20th.....			1	2	27						4	11	21	194	261		
November 2nd.....													1	1	2		
Total.....	1	1	1	8	21	46	270	3	6	2	5	46	116	226	1,805	2,558	

REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL STUART OF OPERATIONS FROM THE ADVANCE OF THE ARMY TILL IT REACHED THE RAPPAHANNOCK.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,  
*Army of Northren Virginia*, February 5, 1863. }

Brigadier General R. H. CHILTON,

*Assistant Adj't and Inspector General, Army of Northern Va. :*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my command during the period of the army's advance to the Rappahannock, in August last:

My command, at that time, consisted of Hampton's brigade, left on observation on the Charles City border, where the enemy's demonstrations left us in some doubt about his intentions; Fitz Lee's brigade at Hanover Court-House, (where also were my headquarters,) and a battery of horse artillery to each. On the 16th of August, 1862, in pursuance of the commanding General's (R. E. Lee) secret instructions, I put this brigade on the march for the vicinity of Raccoon ford, near which point the army under his command was rapidly concentrating. General Fitzhugh Lee was directed by me to proceed the next day from near Davenport's bridge, opposite Beaver Dam, across to the vicinity of Raccoon ford, where I promised to join him on that evening, (17th.) I proceeded, on the cars, directly to the commanding General, whom I found near Orange Court-House. My command was now augmented by the addition of another brigade, Robertson's, and it was intended to concentrate the bulk of this force near Raccoon ford, cross and attack the enemy's communications in rear of Culpeper Court-House, simultaneously with a blow by the main body in front. I rode down to Verdiersville, a point on the plank road, opposite Raccoon ford, where I expected confidently to meet Lee's brigade that evening. I found no one there, except the few inhabitants, who had heard nothing of the brigade. It was night; but as it was highly important to communicate with Lee's brigade, with a view to crossing the next day, I sent my Adjutant General, Major Fitzhugh, on the road on which General F. Lee was to have marched, to look for him, remaining, myself, at Verdiersville. At early dawn, next morning, I was aroused from the porch where I lay, by the noise of horsemen and wagons, and walking out bareheaded to the fence near by, found that they were coming from the very direction indicated for General F. Lee. I was not left long in this delusion, however, for two officers, Captain Mosby and Lieutenant Gibson, whom I sent to ascertain the truth, were fired upon and rapidly pursued. I had barely time to leap upon my horse, just as I was, and, with Major Von Borcke and Lieutenant Dabney, of my staff, escaped by leaping a high fence. The major, who took the road, was fired at as long as in sight, but none of us were hurt. There was no assistance for ten miles. Having stopped at the nearest woods, I observed the party

approach and leave in great haste, but not without my hat and the cloak which had formed my bed. Major Fitzhugh, in his searches for General Lee, was caught by this party, and borne off as a prisoner of war. General Lee's brigade did not arrive till the night of the 18th, a day behind time. Not appreciating the necessity of punctuality in this instance, he changed his course after leaving me, and turned back by Louisa Court-House, following his wagons, which I had directed him to send by that point for provisions, &c. By this failure to comply with instructions, not only the movement of the cavalry across the Rapidan was postponed a day, but a fine opportunity lost to overhaul a body of the enemy's cavalry on a predatory excursion far beyond their lines. By the great detour made by this brigade it was not in condition to move on the 19th upon a forced march to the enemy's rear; but, in accordance with instructions from the commanding General, a copy of which, marked A, accompanies this report, the 19th was devoted to rest and preparation, moving down for bivouac near Mitchell's ford late in the evening. During the day the order of battle, marked C, and subsequent instructions, marked B, were received from the commanding General, from which, it seemed, the enemy had escaped attack. At moonrise, on the 20th, about four A. M., General Lee's and Robertson's brigades were moved across the Rapidan at two adjacent fords, and pushed rapidly forward—Lee's directly by Madden, in pursuit of the enemy in the direction of Kelley's and Ely's fords, on the Rappahannock, and Robertson's, which I accompanied, via Stevensburg, (a village four miles east of Culpeper Court-House,) towards Brandy Station. Brigadier General Fitzhugh Lee, whose written report has not been furnished, found the enemy's rear near Kelley's ford, and, by vigorous attack, secured several prisoners and a cavalry color. One of Robertson's regiments, with the artillery of his brigade, had been, by my direction, left on the upper Rapidan. Colonel T. T. Munford, who commanded that regiment, was ordered to keep on the left of Jackson's wing and keep pace with its movements. Robertson's brigade encountered the enemy first, between Stevensburg and Brandy, the immense dust raised preventing our movement being conducted with secrecy. Colonel Wm. E. Jones, (7th Virginia cavalry,) being in advance, captured a party of the enemy's cavalry, but was kept at bay for some time by the enemy occupying a wood near Brandy; but having received a fresh-supply of ammunition, pushed boldly forward this regiment by the road. General Robertson, with his main body, sixth, twelfth and seventeenth Virginia cavalry, keeping, by my direction, to the left, so as to sweep across the open country towards Barbour's, and flank the enemy's position. The enemy's force engaging us appeared to be cavalry only, and gave way gradually along the road towards Rappahannock Station; but, about midway between Brandy and Rappahannock, made a determined stand, in solid column of squadrons, on the ridge, with skirmishers, mounted, deployed to the front, with which Jones soon became engaged with unequal force. I knew the country to be too much intersected by ditches to render operations free, and considered it necessary, therefore, to advance along the road. Rob-

ertson, who was now sent forward in haste to support his advance regiment, was found to have mistaken the direction, and borne too much to the left; but, as the enemy did not profit by this mishap, nothing was lost by the delay, and the remaining regiments were hurled in rapid succession, in column of fours, upon the enemy's main body. It was perfectly plain that the enemy's force was superior in numbers to ours; but as Pope had evidently, with his main body, reached the other side of the Rappahannock, it was not probable, therefore, that a fierce onset of such cavalry as ours—animated by such incentives and aspirations—could be withstood, and sure enough, before the clash of their sabres could make havoc in his ranks, he turned in flight, and took refuge close to the river, under the protection of his batteries planted beyond the river. Our squadrons rapidly reformed for a renewal of the fight; but having no artillery yet up, the ground was such that cavalry alone could not have attacked the enemy under such protection without sacrifice inadequate to the risk. General Fitzhugh Lee's brigade was sent forward to reinforce Robertson as soon as the enemy was found in force here. It arrived just at this time with Pelham's battery of horse artillery, but the enemy had safely passed the ford before a battery could be placed to interfere with his progress, and, there being now no enemy south of the Rappahannock, except those in our hands, the remainder of the day was devoted to rest. The advance of Jackson reached the vicinity of Brandy that night. I kept the commanding General notified of my whereabouts and the enemy's movements during the day. In the meantime, Mumford had advanced to Culpeper, where he found a number of prisoners. In the action at Brandy Station, our troops behaved in a manner highly creditable, and Colonel Jones, whose regiment so long bore the brunt of the fight, behaved with marked courage and determination. I regret his report has not yet been furnished. The enemy, occupying woods and hedge-roads, with dismounted men, armed with long-range carbines, were repeatedly dislodged by his bold onslaughts, while Flournoy and Harman nobly supported the seventh in the critical moment, when confronted by two brigades of the enemy's cavalry. General Robertson had cause to be proud of the command which his superior discipline, organization and drill had brought to the stability of veterans. Major Heros Von Borcke, my Adjutant General, was conspicuous in the charge, and led an important flank attack at the critical moment of the engagement. While that brave soldier and venerable patriot, animated with the fires of youth, Captain Redmond Burke, while among the foremost in the fierce onset, received a severe wound in the leg, disabling him for some time from active duty. Brigadier General Robertson's report accompanies this, and will give some interesting information, (marked D.) He reports a loss of three killed and thirteen wounded, while the enemy left several more dead on the field, and sixty-four were taken prisoners, wounded included, and several commissioned officers, together with their arms and equipments, and a number of cavalry horses. Thus ended the operations of the 20th August, the enemy's operations having materially modified the original plan. During the night, outposts were kept up by the

cavalry along the entire front. It was ascertained, by my command during the day, that Burnside had effected a junction with Pope before the retreat, and that the enemy had crossed principally at Kelly's ford and Rappahannock Station ford, (the main body of his cavalry crossing at the latter place,) and that the retreat began the night previous, the wagon trains having been sent off early in the day, corroborating the conclusions arrived at by the commanding General, on Clark's mountain. Accompanying this report will also be found a map of the country traversed in the operations described, drawn by Captain Blackford, my topographical engineer.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART,  
*Major General commanding Cavalry.*

REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL STUART OF OPERATIONS  
FROM AUGUST 21ST, 1862, TO EXPEDITION TO CAT-  
LETT'S STATION.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION A. N. V., }  
February 23, 1863. }

Brigadier General R. H. CHILTON,  
*Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General A. N. V.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my command with the Army of Northern Virginia, continuing the series from the morning of the 21st August, when the army was near Brandy Station, with my command in front along the Rappahannock, until its return to the south side of that river from a successful expedition to the enemy's rear at Catlett's Station:

In my last report I committed an error in saying that Lee's brigade joined me at Brandy Station on 20th August, only two regiments of that brigade, first and fifth Virginia cavalry, did so, under command of Colonel T. L. Rosser, fifth Virginia cavalry. Brigadier General Lee with the remainder continued in observation of the enemy at Kelly's and below.

In pursuance of the plan of the commanding General, I directed Colonel Rosser to move, at daylight, with his command for Beverly or Cunningham's ford, as advance guard to the army, to seize the opposite bank by a sudden attack, and hold as much of the country beyond as possible. This duty was nobly performed, and by the time I reached the spot, Colonel Rosser had accomplished the object, capturing a number of prisoners, fifty excellent muskets, stacked, (his sudden dash having frightened the enemy away from their arms) and held enough of the bank beyond to make a crossing by our infantry practicable. All this was promptly reported to General Jackson, who supplied me with two pieces of artillery, which were advantageously posted, under my immediate direction, beyond.

For some reason the army did not follow, and our small force of cavalry and this section of artillery sustained an unequal contest for a greater part of the day with artillery, infantry, and cavalry, during which a brilliant charge, as foragers, was made by Colonel Rosser's cavalry, dispersing, capturing and killing a number of the enemy, but losing one captured, whose bravery and heroism led him too far. I refer to Captain John Ells, fifth Virginia cavalry. The daring of Colonel Rosser's command excited the unreserved praise of the enemy.

Late in the afternoon, as it appeared that a crossing of the main body would not be attempted by us, I deemed a prolongation of this resistance objectless, which reason was rendered stronger by the fact that Brigadier General Robertson, whose brigade had, by my direction, crossed above and penetrated towards the immediate front, reported the enemy moving with heavy force upon my position and close at hand. I therefore withdrew to the south bank. Brigadier General

Robertson, also recrossing the Rappahannock proper above, and resting for the night in the fork of the two streams. That evening, too, Brigadier General Lee, with the remainder of his brigade, came up, except the third Virginia cavalry, left below on Longstreet's flank and rear. On the 22d of August, I moved early to Freeman's ford, on the Rappahannock river, where I had a picket the night previous, to carry out instructions by effecting a crossing, if possible. The ford was commanded by the enemy's artillery and infantry, and four pieces of the Stuart horse artillery, under Captain Pelham, tried in vain to silence the enemy's guns. Having advantage in position, he handled the enemy severely, though suffering casualties in his own battery. While this cannonading was going on, General Jackson's column passed just in my rear, going higher up, and I received a note from the commanding General, that my proposition to strike, with cavalry, the enemy's rear, was approved, and at ten, A. M., I started to the execution of the plan, with the main portion of Robertson's brigade, except the seventh Virginia cavalry, (Jones'), and Lee's brigade, except the third Virginia cavalry—say about fifteen hundred men, and two pieces of artillery. Proceeding through the village of Jefferson, part of the command crossed the Rappahannock at Waterloo bridge, and the remainder at Hart's mill, a few miles below, and took the direct road to Warrenton. Reaching that place in the afternoon, I halted to close up and obtain information. No force of the enemy had been here for days. From this point I directed my march to the rear of Cedar creek, with the view to destroy the railroad bridge over it, near Catlett's Station, and the telegraph line, and thus cut the enemy's line of communication. I had not proceeded far before a terrific storm set in, which was a serious obstacle to the progress of artillery, and gave indications of continuing for a sufficient time to render the streams on my return impassable. Lee's brigade was in advance, and the artillery being entrusted to one of Robertson's regiments, (twelfth Virginia cavalry,) the head of the column pushed on by the village of Auburn, reaching the immediate vicinity of Catlett's after dark. Rosser, being again in front, by his good address and consummate skill, captured the picket, and we soon found ourselves in the midst of the enemy's encampments; but the darkest night I ever knew. Fortunately, we captured, at this moment, so critical, a negro who had known me in Berkeley, and who, recognizing me, informed me of the location of General Pope's staff, baggage, horses, &c., and offered to guide me to the spot. After a brief consultation, it was determined to accept the negro's proposition, as whatever was to be done had to be done quickly, and Brigadier General Fitz Lee selected Colonel W. H. F. Lee's regiment for the work. The latter led his command boldly to within a few feet of the tents occupied by the convivial staff of General Pope, and charged the camp, capturing a large number of prisoners, particularly officers, securing public property to a fabulous amount. While this was going on, the first and fifth Virginia cavalry were sent to attack another camp beyond the railroad and obstruct the latter. This was gallantly done under the dashing lead of Colonels Rosser and Brien, over

ground exceedingly difficult, crossing a heavy filling of the railroad, with ditches each side, amid darkness and a perfect torrent of rain. The lights here were extinguished at the first pistol shot, and the only light left to guide was the flash of the enemy's guns from the wagons, in which they took speedy refuge. It will readily be perceived that under such circumstances successful attack by a charge, mounted, was impossible, and its further prosecution was deferred for the accomplishment of what was the great object of the expedition, the destruction of the Cedar Run railroad bridge.

Capt. Blackford, with a picket party, set about this arduous undertaking, but owing to the fact that everything was saturated with water, ignition was impossible. Axes were looked up in the darkness with great difficulty, and the energetic and thorough-going Wickham was sent, with his regiment, (fourth Virginia cavalry,) to effect its destruction by cutting it down, and finally Brigadier General Lee went in person to superintend it, but the difficulties were insuperable, for the enemy on the other side of the stream, where a cliff afforded excellent protection, were already firing upon our men, who, in this rain which had greatly swollen the stream, met difficulty at every step. It was formed of double trestle-work superposed, which rendered destruction difficult and repair easy. The commanding General will, I am sure, appreciate how hard it was to desist from the undertaking, but to any one on the spot there could be but one opinion—its impossibility—I gave it up. While these attempts were going on, other portions of the command were securing horses and other valuable property from the enemy's camp in our possession, and conducting the large numbers of prisoners to the rear. The enemy collected, after their first stampede, enough to fire a volley into the burning camp, but without injury. Brigadier General Robertson's command was held in reserve, of which the twelfth regiment had not yet arrived, being detained by the artillery. The streams—Cedar Run and Rappahannock—were in my rear, and the former was reported already swimming, and the rain still continued. This cavalry had had a long march without intermission, and being the greater part of the cavalry of the army, its return without delay was necessary. These considerations determined me to leave before daylight with what had been accomplished. I accordingly retired by the same route. As day dawned I found, among the great number of prisoners, Pope's field quartermaster, Major Goulding, and ascertained that the chief quartermaster and Pope's aid-de-camp, (Colonel L. H. Marshall,) narrowly escaped the same fate. The men of the command had secured Pope's uniform, his horses and equipments, money chests, and a great variety of uniforms and personal baggage, but what was of peculiar value was the *despatch book* of General Pope, which contained information of great importance to us, throwing light upon the strength, movements and designs of the enemy, and disclosing General Pope's own views against his ability to defend the line of the Rappahannock. These and many others, to which it is needless now to refer, were transmitted to the commanding General at the time, and no copies were kept by me.

The number of the enemy's killed we had no means of ascertaining. Our own loss in killed, wounded and missing was slight—a circumstance affording peculiar reason for congratulation under the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the enterprise. Over three hundred prisoners, of whom a large number were officers, were marched safely within our lines at Warrenton Springs, on the 23d of August, where General Jackson was found constructing a bridge. My command remained that night on the north bank in bivouac, and the next day recrossed to the south bank, General Jackson's crossing at that point having been abandoned. During the 23d, some severe skirmishing with artillery took place, in which the second Virginia cavalry, Colonel Munford, (Robertson's brigade,) suffered to some extent. The brigades, after recrossing the Rappahannock, took position between Jefferson and Amissville, the main portion of the army being now between the two rivers.

I feel bound to accord to the officers and men, collectively, engaged in this expedition, unqualified praise for their good conduct, under circumstances where their discipline, fortitude, endurance, and bravery stood such an extraordinary test. The horseman, who, at his officers' bidding, without questioning, leaps into unexplored darkness, knowing nothing except that there is certain danger ahead, possesses the highest attribute of the patriot-soldier. It is a great source of pride to me to command a division of such men. I append a map, containing that portion of the country embraced in this report drawn by Captain W. W. Blackford, corps of engineers. I am greatly indebted to my staff for valuable services rendered. They were, without exception, prompt and indefatigable. Subsequent events have shown what a demoralizing effect the success of this expedition had upon the army of the enemy—shaking their confidence in a general who had scorned the enterprise and ridiculed the courage of his adversaries, and it compelled him to look to his communications and make heavy detachments from his main body to protect them. It inflicted a mortifying disaster upon the General himself in the loss of his personal baggage and part of his staff.

Appended will be found a list of casualties.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART,  
*Major General commanding.*

MEMORANDA OF OPERATIONS OF MAJOR GENERAL J.  
E. B. STUART, SECOND BATTLE OF MANASSAS, OR  
GROVETON.

*Tuesday, August 26, 1862*—General Stuart overtook General Jackson at Gainesville, at four o'clock, P. M., and that night Bristoe Station was attacked, General Stuart keeping on General Jackson's right flank, between him and Warrenton Junction.

*Night of Tuesday, August 26, 1862*.—General Stuart took General Trimble's brigade of infantry and a part of his cavalry, and went from Bristoe to Manassas Depot.\*

*Wednesday, August 27*.—General Stuart made an attack on Manassas Depot at daylight, and captured eight pieces of artillery, with horses, harness, all complete, and immense stores of all kinds. General Jackson, and part of his command, came up at noon, (twelve, M.) of that day, and fought Taylor's (Federal) brigade coming from the direction of Union Mills, in which fight General Taylor (Federal) was mortally wounded. In the meantime, General Ewell was attacked at Bristoe Station, and towards night, retired upon Manassas, Colonel Rosser protecting his (Ewell's) right flank, and bringing up his rear to Manassas, with his cavalry regiment. The cavalry was picketing and scouting in every direction that day and night. General Fitzhugh Lee was sent that day with a portion of his command on an expedition beyond Fairfax Court-House, in which he went to Burke's Station, and there captured prisoners, stores, &c.

*Night of Wednesday, August 27*.—After destroying everything at Manassas, (stores, &c.,) the army started for the Stone Bridge, a portion going by the way of Centreville, the cavalry being so disposed as to cover this movement, Colonel Rosser forming the rear guard to General A. P. Hill's division.

*Thursday, August 28*.—On the morning of this day, (the army facing towards Groveton, Colonel Rosser's cavalry being on our left flank and front,) a portion of the cavalry stationed on our right flank as videttes, kept watch of the enemy's movements, with orders to report to General Jackson. General Stuart, with portions of Robertson's and F. Lee's brigades, (under General Robertson) marched for Haymarket, keeping along the south side of Bull Run, (crossing sometimes) by a by-way; but before reaching there, General Stuart found a force of the enemy, which he skirmished with for some time, his attack on them at Haymarket being intended as a diversion in favor of General Longstreet, who was engaged with the enemy at Thoroughfare Gap. General Stuart reached Haymarket at three, P. M., and returned about dark, in time to take part in the battle, which had been going on, joining in just after the infantry and artillery ceased firing. General Stuart spent the night of Thursday, August 28th, with General Jackson, near Sudley mills.

*Friday, August 29*.—As General Stuart rode forward towards Groveton, about ten, A. M., he found that the enemy's sharpshooters

had penetrated the woods going towards the ambulances and train, threatening to cut them off. He at once directed Captain (now Major) Pelham, of the Stuart horse artillery, who was near by, to shell the woods and gather up all the stragglers around the train and drive back the enemy, notifying General Jackson, in the meantime, of what was transpiring. He also ordered the quartermaster to move the train towards Aldie, and sent an order to Major Patrick to keep his battalion of cavalry between the enemy and the baggage train, a duty which he faithfully discharged, receiving a mortal wound just as he gallantly and successfully repulsed a large force of the enemy that was attempting to cross the run. General Stuart also sent to Colonel Baylor, who was near the railroad embankment, in command of the Stonewall brigade, asking him to come forward and drive back the enemy, but he replied: "I was posted here for a purpose, and have positive orders to stay here, which I must obey." Having ordered Captain Pelham to report to General Jackson, General Stuart went towards Haymarket to establish communication with Generals Lee and Longstreet, accompanied by Brigadier General Robertson, with a portion of his and a portion of General F. Lee's cavalry. General Stuart met Generals Lee and Longstreet on the road between Haymarket and Gainesville, and informed them of what had happened, and the situation of General Jackson's forces, and those of the enemy. General Lee inquired for some way to the Sudley road. General Stuart showed him that the best route for them was by the turnpike, which they took, and General Stuart moved to General Longstreet's right flank.

The detachment of cavalry under General F. Lee, that had been to Burke's Station, returned in the afternoon of this day, to the vicinity of General Jackson, at Sudley.

*The night of Friday, August 29,* General Stuart was two miles east of General Longstreet's command.

*Saturday, August 30.*—General Stuart remained on Longstreet's right, and moved down upon the enemy with crushing effect, driving him across Bull Run, at Lewis' Ford, the artillery enfilading his lines and firing into his rear, only ceasing to fire upon him at dark, for fear of firing into our own men.

REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL STUART OF OPERATIONS  
IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING, AND INCLUDING, THE  
BATTLE OF GROVETON.

HEADQUARTERS STUART'S CAVALRY DIVISION,  
*Army of Northern Virginia, February 28, 1863.* }

Brigadier General R. H. CHILTON, A. A. G. :

GENERAL: I have the honor to furnish the following summary of events in which my command participated immediately preceding and subsequent to the second battle of Manassas, or, as it should be more properly termed, the battle of Groveton Heights, August 30th, 1862. My command had hardly recrossed the Rappahannock, as narrated in my last, when that portion of it left on outpost duty on the river became engaged with the enemy, who had advanced to the opposite bank. It was soon apparent that the enemy meditated the destruction of the Waterloo bridge, the only bridge over the stream then standing. Appreciating its importance to us, I directed the sharpshooters of the two brigades to be sent to its defence, and the command of this party, numbering about one hundred men, devolved, by selection, upon Colonel T. L. Rosser, fifth Virginia cavalry, whose judgment in posting his command enabled him to prevent the destruction of the bridge in spite of desperate attempts to reach it, and held possession all day and night against infantry and artillery, until the next day, when he turned over his position and the bridge, intact, to a regiment of infantry sent to relieve him. During the day, I sent Captain J. Hardeman Stuart, my signal officer, to capture the enemy's signal party at View Tree, an eminence overlooking Warrenton, and establish his own flag instead—the sequel shows with what success. Colonel Munford's regiment, second Virginia cavalry, was detached for temporary service with General Jackson. That night (25th) I repaired to the headquarters of the commanding General, and received my final instructions to accompany the movement of Major General Jackson, already begun. I was to start at two, A. M., and, upon arriving at the brigades that night, at one, A. M., I had reveille sounded and preparations made for the march at two. In this way I got no sleep, but continued in the saddle all night. I followed, by direction, the route of General Jackson, through Amissville, across the Rappahannock, at Hinson's Mill, four miles above Waterloo, proceeded through Orlean, and thence on the road to Salem, till, getting near that place, I found my way blocked by the baggage trains and artillery of General Jackson's command. Directing the artillery and ambulances to follow the road, I left it, with the cavalry, and proceeded by farm roads and by-paths, parallel to General Jackson's route, to reach the head of his column, which left Salem and The Plains early in the morning for the direction of Gainesville. The country was exceedingly rough, but I succeeded, by the aid of skillful guides, in passing Bull Run Mountain without passing Thoroughfare Gap, and, without

incident worthy of record, passed through Haymarket and overtook General Jackson near Gainesville and reported to him. Ewell's division was in advance, and to my command was entrusted guarding the two flanks during the remainder of the pending operations, (26th.) As Lee's brigade passed Haymarket, he received information of a train of forage wagons of the enemy, and sent out promptly a regiment and captured it. Having made disposition above and below Gainesville, on the Warrenton road, with cavalry and artillery, I kept, with the main portion, on General Jackson's right, crossing Broad Run a few miles above Bristoe and intersecting the railroad to the right (south) of that point. The cavalry now fronted towards the main body of the enemy, still in the direction of the Rappahannock, and covered General Jackson's operations on the railroad bridge, on approaching which Colonel Munford's regiment, second Virginia cavalry, as advance guard, made a bold dash into the place and secured most of the occupants. About dusk, and simultaneously with the arrival of the command at the railroad, trains of cars came rapidly on from the direction of Warrenton Junction, and before obstruction could be made the first passed on, though fired into by the infantry; several subsequent ones followed, and were captured by the infantry. Details of these operations will, no doubt, be given by General Jackson and the division commanders.

As soon as practicable, I reported to General Jackson, who desired me to proceed to Manassas, and ordered General Trimble to follow with his brigade, notifying me to take charge of the whole. The fourth Virginia cavalry (Colonel Wickham) was sent around to gain the rear of Manassas, and with a portion of Robertson's brigade, not on outpost duty. I proceeded by the direct road to Manassas. I marched until challenged by the enemy's interior sentinels, and received a fire of canister. As the infantry were near, coming on, I awaited its arrival, as it was too dark to venture cavalry over uncertain ground, against artillery. I directed General Trimble, upon his arrival, to rest his centre directly on the railroad and advance upon the place, with skirmishers well to the front. He soon sent me word it was so dark he preferred waiting till morning, which I accordingly directed he should do. As soon as day broke, the place was taken without much difficulty, and, with it, many prisoners and millions of stores of every kind, which his report will doubtless show. Rosser (fifth Virginia cavalry) was left on outpost duty in front of Ewell at Bristoe, and Brien (first Virginia cavalry) above Gainesville. During the 27th, detachments of Robertson's and Lee's brigades had great sport chasing fugitive parties of the enemy's cavalry. General Jackson, having arrived early in the day, took direction of affairs, and the day was occupied mainly in rationing the command; but several serious demonstrations were made by the enemy during the day, from the north side, and in this connection I will mention the coolness and tact of Mr. Lewis F. Terrill, volunteer aid to General Robertson, who extemporized lanyards and, with detachments from the infantry as cannoneers, turned the captured guns with marked effect upon the enemy. Their general, G. W. Taylor,

of New Jersey, was killed during the fire. Brigadier General Fitz-hugh Lee, with the ninth, fourth and third Virginia cavalry, was detached and sent in rear of Fairfax Court House to damage the enemy's communication as much as possible, and, if possible, cut off the retreat of this party. Colonels Munford and Rosser brought up the rear of General Ewell, and that night, when Manassas was destroyed and evacuated, the cavalry brought up the rear, a portion remaining in the place till daylight. Captain Pelham, arriving late, was indefatigable in his efforts to get away the captured guns, which duty was entrusted specially to him. A part of the command marching by Centreville, and a part directly to Stone Bridge, (over Bull Run,) detachments of cavalry were so arranged as to guard both flanks.

The next morning, (28th,) the main body of Robertson's rendezvoused near Sudley Church. General Jackson's were massed between the turnpike and Sudley ford, on Bull Run, fronting towards Manassas and Gainesville. Colonel Brien (first Virginia cavalry) had to retire, being hard pressed by the enemy from the direction of Warrenton, and was on the turnpike covering Jackson's front towards Gainesville, and Rosser towards Manassas, where the enemy had also appeared in force, early. The remainder of Lee's brigade were still detached on an expedition towards Alexandria. Early in the day a despatch from the enemy had been intercepted, giving the order of march from Warrenton towards Manassas, and directing cavalry to report to General Bayard, at Haymarket. I proposed to General Jackson to allow me to go up there and do what I could with the two fragments of brigades I still had. I proceeded to that point, capturing a detachment of the enemy en route. Approaching the place by a by-path, I saw indications of a large force there prepared for attack. About this time, I could see the fight going on at Thoroughfare Gap, where Longstreet had his progress disputed by the enemy, and it was to establish communication with him that I was anxious to make this march. I sent a trusty man with the despatch to the right of Haymarket. I kept up a brisk skirmish with the enemy, without any result, until in the afternoon, when, General Jackson having engaged the enemy, I quietly withdrew and hastened to place my command on his right flank. Not reaching General Jackson's right till dark, the fighting ceased, and the command rendezvoused as before, but the cavalry, under Colonel Rosser, had played an important part in attacking the enemy's baggage train. Captain John Pelham's battery of horse artillery acted a conspicuous part on the extreme right of the battle-field, dashing forward to his position under heavy fire.

The next morning, (29th,) in pursuance of General Jackson's wishes, I set out again to endeavor to establish communication with Longstreet, from whom he had received a favorable report the night before. Just after leaving the Sudley road, my party was fired on from the wood bordering the road, which was in rear of Jackson's lines, and which the enemy had penetrated with a small force, it was afterwards ascertained, and captured some stragglers. They were between General Jackson and his baggage at Sudley. I immediately sent to Major Patrick, whose six companies of cavalry were near

Sudley, to interpose in defence of the baggage, and use all the means at hand for its protection, and order the baggage at once to start for Aldie. General Jackson also being notified of this movement in his rear, sent back infantry to close the woods. Captain Pelham, always at the right place at the right time, unlimbered his battery and soon dispersed that portion in the woods. Major Patrick was attacked later, but he repulsed the enemy with considerable loss, though not without loss to us, for the gallant Major, himself setting the example to his men, was mortally wounded. He lived long enough to witness the triumph of our arms, and expired thus in the arms of victory. The sacrifice was noble, but the loss to us irreparable. I met with the head of General Longstreet's column between Haymarket and Gainesville, and there communicated to the commanding General, General Jackson's position and the enemy's. I then passed the cavalry through the column so as to place it on Longstreet's right flank, and advanced directly towards Manassas, while the column kept directly down the pike to join General Jackson's right. I selected a fine position for a battery on the right, and one having been sent to me, I fired a few shots at the enemy's supposed position, which induced him to shift his position. General Robertson, who, with his command, was sent to reconnoitre further down the road towards Manassas, reported the enemy in his front. Upon repairing to that front, I found that Rosser's regiment was engaged with the enemy to the left of the road, and Robertson's videttes had found the enemy approaching from the direction of Bristoe Station towards Sudley. The prolongation of his line of march would have passed through my position, which was a very fine one for artillery as well as observation, and struck Longstreet in flank. I waited his approach long enough to ascertain that there was at least an army corps, at the same time keeping detachments of cavalry dragging brush down the road from the direction of Gainesville, so as to deceive the enemy, (a ruse which Porter's report shows was successful,) and notified the commanding General, then opposite me on the turnpike, that Longstreet's flank and rear were seriously threatened, and of the importance to us of the ridge I then held. Immediately upon the receipt of that intelligence, Jenkins', Kemper's and D. R. Jones' brigades, and several pieces of artillery were ordered to me by General Longstreet, and, being placed in position fronting Bristoe, awaited the enemy's advance. After exchanging a few shots with rifle pieces, this corps withdrew towards Manassas, leaving artillery and supports to hold the position till night. Brigadier General Fitz Lee returned to the vicinity of Sudley, after a very successful expedition, of which his official report has not been received, and was instructed to co-operate with Jackson's left. Late in the afternoon the artillery on this commanding ridge was, to an important degree, auxilliary to the attack upon the enemy, and Jenkins' brigade repulsed the enemy in handsome style, at one volley, as they advanced across the corn-field. Thus the day ended, our lines having considerably advanced. Captain Pelham's battery was still with the left wing. [See his interesting report of its action, on the 28th and 29th, herewith.] Next morning, (30th,) it

became evident that the enemy had materially retired his left wing. My cavalry reconnoitered to the front, gaining, at the next house, an important point of observation. A large walnut tree being used as an observatory, the enemy was discovered gradually massing his troops in three lines opposite Jackson, and his left wing seemed to have entirely shifted. The commanding General was informed of these changes. Captain Throckmorton, sixth Virginia cavalry, commanding sharpshooters, took position along a stone fence, and stoutly defended our observation against the attacks of the enemy's dismounted cavalry.

About three, P. M., the enemy having disclosed his movement on Jackson, our right wing advanced to the attack. I directed Robertson's brigade and Rosser's regiment to push forward on the extreme right, and, at the same time, all the batteries that I could get hold of were advanced at a gallop, to take position to enfilade the enemy in front of our lines. This was done with splendid effect; Colonel Rosser, a fine artillerist, as well as bold cavalier, having the immediate direction of the batteries. The enemy's lines were distinctly visible, and every shot told upon them fearfully. Robertson's brigade was late coming forward, and consequently our right flank was at one time somewhat threatened by the enemy's cavalry; but the artillery of Captain Rogers, with a few well-directed shots, relieved us on that score. When our cavalry arrived on the field, no time was lost in crowding the enemy, the artillery being kept always far in advance of the infantry lines. The fight was of remarkably short duration. The Lord of Hosts was plainly fighting on our side, and the solid walls of Federal infantry melted away before the straggling, but nevertheless determined, onsets of our infantry columns. The head of Robertson's cavalry was now on the ridge overlooking Bull Run, and having seen no enemy in that direction, I was returning to the position of the artillery enfilading the Groveton road, when I received intelligence from General Robertson, at the point I had just left, that the enemy was there in force, and asking reinforcements. I ordered the two reserve regiments, seventh and twelfth, rapidly forward, and also a section of artillery; but before the latter could reach the point, our cavalry, by resolute bravery, had put the enemy, under Buford, to ignominious flight across Bull Run, and were in full pursuit, till our own artillery fire at the fugitives rendered it dangerous to proceed further. In this brilliant affair over three hundred of the enemy's cavalry were put *hors de combat*; they, together with horses and equipments, falling into our hands. Colonel Broadhead, first Michigan, died from his wounds next day. He was cut down by Adjutant Harman, twelfth Virginia cavalry. Major Atwood and a number of captains and lieutenants were among the prisoners. The further details of this fight will be found in the accompanying reports of Brigadier General Robertson and Colonel T. T. Munford. The latter, as well as his Lieutenant Colonel, J. W. Watts, Major Breckenridge, and Lieutenants Kelso and Walton, were wounded in the action, conspicuously displaying great gallantry and heroism. The second Virginia cavalry suffered most. Nothing could have equalled the splen-

dor with which Robertson's regiments swept down upon a force greatly outnumbering them, thus successfully vindicating a claim for courage and discipline equal to any cavalry in the world. Night soon ensued, and, as the enemy's masses of infantry had not retreated across Bull Run, I was anxious to cut off their retreat. Upon the enemy's position, after dark, however, infantry only could move, and I was anxious for Brigadier General Armistead to attack from a position he took after dark, on the enemy's flank, and urged it. He, however, doubted the policy of night attack, with his command, especially as there was danger of collision with our own infantry, and I did not feel authorized to order it, particularly as there was time to communicate with the commanding General, which was promptly done. The attack was not made.

Before daylight, next morning, the cavalry was in the saddle and after the enemy; but met with nothing but stragglers until we came within range of the guns at Centreville, where his forces appeared to be in position. Twenty or thirty ambulances were captured and sent back with orders to go to work removing our wounded from the battle field. I have never heard of those ambulances, except that they were seized as fresh captures by the Texas brigade. I think this not improbable, as a large number of prisoners I sent to the rear were fired upon by our infantry near the stone bridge. At this time, Colonel T. L. Rosser was sent, with one hundred men and a section of artillery, back to recapture Manassas, in which he succeeded. His report of his operations those few days will be found of interest. At one time, on the 30th, I noticed our front lines, near Chinn's house, giving way, and, looking back, I saw the reserve line stationary. I sent word to the General commanding (whose name I did not learn) to move up, as he was much needed to support the attack. That order was carried by Captain W. D. Farley, volunteer aid, under circumstances of great personal danger, in which his horse was shot. Generals Jenkins and Kemper came under my observation as exhibiting good conduct, bravery and coolness. Brigadier General D. R. Jones was with me part of the time, on the extreme right, during the battle, in which several batteries of his division took part, and I think he left me to bring his infantry into action. My division surgeon, Talcott Eliason, besides being an adept in his profession, exhibited on this, as on former occasions, the attributes of a cavalry commander. First Lieutenant R. Channing Price was of invaluable assistance as aid-de-camp. Major Von Borcke, A. A. G., and J. W. T. H. Hairston, C. S. A., and Lieutenant Chiswell Dabney, A. D. C., rendered important service throughout the period embraced in this report. My division quartermaster, Major Samuel Hardin Hairston, in coming on to join me, was put in command of a detachment of cavalry at Salem by the commanding General, and sent on an important reconnaissance towards Warrenton, of which his report is appended. Captain W. W. Blackford, corps of engineers, was quick and indefatigable in his efforts to detect the designs of the enemy, and improve the positions within our reach. Private Stringfellow displayed great daring and enterprise as a scout. I append a

map of the country embraced in the foregoing operations, drawn by Captain W. W. Blackford, corps of engineers. I have to mourn the loss of Captain J. Hardeman Stuart, signal officer, the particulars of whose death are given below.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART,

*Major General commanding Cavalry.*

### CASUALTIES.

*Number of Men Killed and Wounded in the battle of Groveton Heights,  
August 30, 1862:*

	Killed.	Wounded.
Second Virginia cavalry,	3	39
Twelfth Virginia cavalry,	0	6
Captain Brown's Maryland cavalry,	0	2
Regiment unknown,	2	1
Capt. J. Hardeman Stuart, sig. officer,	1	0
	—	—
	6	48

#### *Names of Officers Killed :*

Captain J. Hardeman Stuart, signal corps, cavalry division.

#### *List of Officers Severely Wounded :*

Lieutenant Colonel Watts, second Virginia cavalry.			
Major Breckenridge,	do	do	do
Lieutenant Kelso,	do	do	do
Lieutenant Walton,	do	do	do

#### *List of the Killed, Wounded and Missing of the Stuart Horse Artillery in the engagements preceding the battle of Groveton Heights :*

	Killed.	Wounded.
28th August, 1862,	0	4
29th August, 1862,	1	1
Total,	1	5

Seven horses killed.

The list of casualties in the division is defective, in that no reports have been received from the first, third, fourth and ninth regiments Virginia cavalry, General Fitz. Lee's brigade. Captain J. Hardeman Stuart, who was sent to capture the enemy's signal party, was deterred by the number of the guard; but the man who had his horse

left without him, and he marched afoot with Longstreet's column to Groveton, in which memorable battle he shouldered a musket and fought as a private. He was killed at the storming of Groveton Heights, among the foremost. No young man was so universally beloved, or will be more universally mourned. He was, moreover, a young man of fine attainments and bright promise.

J. E. B. STUART,  
*Major General commanding.*

REPLY OF MAJOR GENERAL STUART TO MAJOR GENERAL TRIMBLE'S STATEMENT OF THE CAPTURE OF MANASSAS.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION, A. N. VA., {  
April 25, 1863. }

General R. H. CHILTON, A. A. G.:

GENERAL: My attention has been recently called to Brigadier General J. R. Trimble's report of the capture of Manassas on the night of the 26th and 27th of August, 1863.

As affecting my own official report of the matter, it is proper I should state the following as *addendum* to my report and request that it be so filed, together with the corroborating statements of Surgeon Eliason, with me at the time, and Colonel Wickham, who show wherein General Trimble is in error in his report.

Human memory is frail, I know, and while, in what I have said or may say on this subject, my recollection is as vivid as upon any other contemporaneous event, about which there is no difference, I lay no claim to infallibility, and I am very far from imputing to the veteran General Trimble any improper intention or motive in what he has said. Wishing to be brief, I hope the accompanying papers, (A and B,) referred to above, and also General Trimble's papers of the 6th of January and 10th of April, and my own official report may be attentively read; what follows will then be better understood.

The idea which, strange to say, never entered General Trimble's head, never for one moment left mine—that he was under my command on that occasion. It is hard to account for, and yet I remember that he sent me no message upon the capture of Manassas, but sent it direct to General Jackson; and besides, he failed to submit to me his official report, which he should have done. I attributed these omissions to a certain jealousy of authority which officers older in years are apt to feel towards a young superior in rank, and never suspected that the question of my being in command was involved in any kind of doubt in his mind. I received instructions from General Jackson, and was told by him that Trimble's brigade would be sent to me. I pushed on with the cavalry to surprise the place; but the train which ran the gauntlet at Bristoe, put the garrison on the alert. I awaited Trimble's arrival to make the attack, as well as to give Wickham more time, with his regiment, to seize the avenues in rear of Manassas, which he did, in a very creditable manner, as shown in his report. Now, as to the interview when General Trimble came up: He says: "It was arranged between General Stuart and myself that I should form line," &c. How arranged? I was a major general, he a brigadier; I assigned especially to this duty, and notified that General Trimble would report to me. It is true that I am not in the habit of giving orders, particularly to my seniors in years, in a dictatorial and authoritative manner, and my

manner, very likely, on this occasion was more suggestive than imperious. Indeed, I may have been content to satisfy myself that the disposition which he himself proposed accorded with my own ideas, without any blustering show of "orders" to do this or do that. My recollection is clear that I indicated that the centre should rest on the railroad. The cavalry under Wickham had already been sent long before Trimble's arrival to seize the avenues of escape and await events. Wickham, Eliason and myself have corresponding impressions, *without conference*, as to the events of the night. Wickham says he carried out his instructions to the letter, and reported to General Trimble as soon as the place was taken. He says the first fire occurred about twelve, and that it was about two, A. M., before any further firing was heard, and then the place was taken. General Trimble says the place was taken at half-past twelve, A. M. Eliason thinks it was even later than two. So do I. All accounts agree, Gen. Trimble's, too, that the place was taken without difficulty. Gen. Trimble remarks that he admits that it was taken without difficulty, so far as my execution contributed to its capture. I certainly could not have participated more than I did without officially interposing to assist Brigadier General Trimble to command two regiments of his brigade, in an enterprise attended with so little difficulty. I commanded in the capture of Manassas quite as much as either General Jackson or General Lee would have done had either been present. That Colonel Flournoy did not enter the place till two or two and a half hours after its capture; he may have been ordered elsewhere previously. In fact, other regiments did not get in till late the next day. Does that signify that Wickham, with his regiment, was not in the right place and performed the important part assigned him, as stated so circumstantially by him. General Trimble says I did not reach the place till seven or eight o'clock. I was in plain view all the time, and rode through, around, and all about the place soon after its capture. [See Dr. Eliason's statement.] General T. is mistaken. I can account for it, however, by the fact that I did not find him till probably that hour, for I looked and inquired for him, but could not find him. I took direction of affairs. I gave orders. I know they were obeyed, by infantry as well as by cavalry. I ordered details to man the enemy's guns; put Major Terrell, of General Robertson's staff, in charge of the guns; he extemporised lanyards; fired upon the enemy in accordance with my orders. I led a regiment or battalion myself, during the morning, to an exposed redoubt on the right, which the enemy was threatening to seize so as to flank and enfilade the place. I did innumerable acts, which, if not in command, I never would have dreamed of doing, and as long as my authority was unquestioned, I deemed it entirely unnecessary to notify General Trimble and others, whom I supposed already cognizant of the fact, that I was in command, and even if General Jackson had not specially entrusted me with this command, as a major general *on the spot*, I was entitled to it, and would have assumed it as a matter of course, in accordance with the Articles of War, and never till a few days ago did I conceive that any one claimed to be in command but myself.

General Trimble lays stress on my idea of the distance of the enemy's works from where he overtook me. A dark night, what is more natural than to mistake the degree of proximity of lights in the distance. They were the lights of Manassas. According to Dr. Eliason, the artillery had reached us before General Trimble's arrival, and the report, as well as other noises, gave strength to the conviction that we were very near the place. We had captured a picket much further out, and I desired to convey the idea that we were very near the main body—whether it was posted as grand guard, reserved or entrenched garrison, is not so material in that statement.

In the face of General Trimble's positive denial of sending me such a message referred to, "that he would prefer waiting *till daylight or any thing like it*," while my recollection is clear that I did receive such a message, and received it as coming from General Trimble, yet as he was positive to not having sent it, or any thing like it, I feel bound to believe that either the message was misrepresented or made up by the messenger, or that it was a message received from General Robertson, whose sharpshooters had been previously deployed. When matters follow each other so closely it is difficult, in a report written some time after, to fix the order of time; but General Trimble does the cavalry injustice in his report. There seems to be a growing tendency to abuse and underrate the services of that arm of service by a few officers of infantry, among whom I regret to find General Trimble. Troops should be taught to take pride in other branches of service than their own. Officers, particularly general officers, should be the last, by word or example, to inculcate in the troops of their command a spirit of jealousy and unjust detraction towards other arms of service, where all are mutually dependent and mutually interested, with functions differing in character but not in importance. So far as my own and the conduct of my cavalry are concerned, I am content to rest their vindication and their defence with the generals under whom it has been my honor and pleasure to serve since the first gun of the war.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART,  
Major General.

#### STATEMENT OF SURGEON ELIASON.

CAMP PELHAM, April 17, 1863.

**GENERAL:** In compliance with your request, I give you an account of the events of the night of August 26, 1862, as I remember them. After General Jackson had taken complete possession of Bristoe Station, you started for Manassas. Moving slowly at the head of the column in order that the infantry might have time to come up. When the advanced guard got within a mile and a half of Manassas, they captured a sentinel standing on the railroad track, and, directly after,

encountered the picket of infantry and cavalry to which he belonged. After a few shots they were driven in, and pursued until a shell, fired by the enemy, struck just to our right. We then halted and waited to ascertain the position of our infantry. Just about day, we heard a few shots, and, the command being mounted in haste, we rode into Manassas, almost simultaneously with the infantry, who had not full possession of the place, as the enemy were in full view of its eastern side. This was just after full daylight.

Most respectfully,

T. ELIASON.

# REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL TRIMBLE OF THE CAPTURE OF MANASSAS.

HEADQUARTERS TRIMBLE'S DIVISION, {  
April 10, 1863. }

Colonel C. J. FAULKNER,  
*Assistant Adjutant General :*

COLONEL: I have received your communication, dated yesterday, calling my attention to a seeming discrepancy between your (my) report of the capture of Manassas Junction, on the night of the 26th August last, and that of Major General Stuart, together with an extract from his report. It is not difficult to account for partial or serious discrepancy in reports of two officers, when one was present on the spot, with all the circumstances passing under his immediate notice, and the other was at the time a mile or two distant, and in the night. I have carefully read over my original report, dated Charlottesville, January 6th, 1863, [the clerk, in copying it, must have made an error in writing 1862, which please correct,] and have today had a conference, through my staff, with numerous officers who took part in the transaction, and have not a word to alter, that report stating correctly the main facts, but not all the circumstances, which I shall now briefly relate:

I was not aware, on marching on Manassas Junction, that General Stuart had gone in ahead, as the staff officers did not notify me of that fact, nor that I was to act under General Stuart. Hence, when I heard the discharge of musketry in our front, as stated in my report, I was quite ignorant of the cause, and, but for the prudence of my aid-de camp, Lieutenant McKim, might have fired into our own cavalry. We were then marching by the flank. It was arranged between General Stuart and myself that I should form line of battle and advance, and as soon as this was done, to inform him of the fact. He informed me that we were but a *short half mile* from Manassas. I estimated the distance afterwards at one and a half to two miles, being disappointed, as we advanced, by his estimate. The distance can easily be known to any one by the fact that when I met General Stuart, he was opposite the centre of woods on the north of the Alexandria and Orange railroad, where the extensive hospitals had been erected. Therefore, the pickets which he refers to were not the enemy's interior, but their exterior pickets. The encounter with these pickets was by musketry alone, and by a single discharge of artillery, as our troops were not over four hundred yards from the spot, and could easily distinguish the irregularity of the fire as that of the skirmishers, to which General Stuart does not allude in his report. I received no orders from General Stuart as to the disposition of my force in its advance, and it was not until we received the fire of the enemy's batteries a half mile distant from Manassas, that I disposed the regiments each on either side of the railroad. General Stuart is

entirely mistaken in his statement that I soon sent him word it was so dark I preferred waiting till morning. I sent no such message, nor anything like it, and General Jackson can himself judge of the likelihood of my doing so by recalling to his mind the fact that I wrote him a note previous to our reaching Bristoe, suggesting a *night attack with one brigade* (not mine) as the only means of securing the immense stores which I had heard were there, and saving them from conflagration. The only message I sent to General Stuart was by my aid-de-camp, Lieutenant McKim, that I was ready to advance, should do so at once, and that he could assist with his cavalry in any way he judged proper.

I saw no cavalry that night *until two or two and a half hours after the capture had taken place*, when a regiment arrived unmolested from the north side of the railroad, commanded by Colonel Flournoy, I think. The time of their arrival I can fix, with tolerable precision, as my note to General Jackson was written at *three A. M.*, [which please correct] and I sought Colonel Flournoy, who had come in a *short time before* to obtain a courier to bear the note.

As to the statement of General Stuart that "the place was taken without difficulty," I am embarrassed by a difficulty in applying the compliment to myself or to him; but will generously give him the benefit of the doubt and admit that it was taken without difficulty so far as his executions contributed to its capture.

The statements of officers hereto appended, are sent, not to rectify anything I have stated in my report, but only to throw light on the position and operations of the cavalry. It is worth notice that Captain Shepperd states he met the cavalry, on *his return* for ambulances, almost one mile and a half in the rear of Manassas Station, (the railroad junction is three-fourths of a mile from Manassas Station,) commonly called the Junction, probably on the exact spot where we left them, and that they asked him if we had captured Manassas.

I beg that you will report that the capture took place about half-past twelve, A. M., the night of the 26th and 27th August, and I further request that the foregoing explanations may be appended to my report and accompany it as official.

Having had access to my notes, I subjoin a list of part of the stores taken by the capture:

#### SCHEDULE OF PART OF PUBLIC PROPERTY CAPTURED AT MANASSAS JUNCTION.

- Fifty thousand pounds bacon.
- One thousand barrels corned beef.
- Two thousand barrels salt pork.
- Two thousand barrels flour.
- Two trains loaded with promiscuous stores, clothing, etc.
- Large stores of oats, and corn, and whisky.
- Eight brass pieces light artillery, caissons and ammunition.
- Seventy-two artillery horses and harness.
- One hundred and seventy-five horses, (draft.)

Forty-two wagons and ambulances.  
Four sutlers' stores and contents.  
Two hundred to three hundred new tents.

I have the honor to be respectfully, your obedient serv't,  
J. R. TRIMBLE,  
*Major General.*

HEADQUARTERS TRIMBLE'S DIVISION, }  
April 11, 1863.

Major General J. R. TRIMBLE:

GENERAL: In compliance with your request, I make the following statement:

On the night of the 26th August, 1862, as your command was moving by the flank upon Manassas, it was halted, when about a mile and a half from the Junction, in consequence of the report of a few musket shots in front, occasioned, as was soon ascertained, by the fire of the enemy's pickets upon our cavalry, under the command of Major General Stuart. After a short interview with General Stuart, your command was formed in line of battle, and I was sent to notify General Stuart of your readiness to advance. I found him asleep under a tree; he was awakened by one of his staff, and I delivered your message. The firing which occasioned our halt was from the enemy's pickets alone. No gun was fired by the enemy until we were within half a mile of Manassas. I saw nothing more of the cavalry after delivering to General Stuart your message, and it has always been my impression that they did not participate in the attack upon Manassas.

I remain, sir, very respectfully, yours,  
W. DUNCAN McKIM.

CAMP TWENTY-FIRST NORTH CAROLINA, }  
April 10, 1863.

Major General TRIMBLE:

In answer to your note requesting us to state what we knew of the capture of Manassas Junction by our forces last summer, and the part our regiment enacted in that affair, we respectfully send the following statement:

Our regiment and the twenty-first Georgia started from Bristoe Station about nine, P. M., and marched toward the Junction, passing by the cavalry about one mile from that place. Our regiment was drawn up in line on the right of the railroad and the Georgia regiment on the left. When we reached the first redoubt, which had been thrown up by our forces whilst the place was in our possession last year, 1861-62, we were fired upon by musketry and artillery with canister. The order was immediately given to charge the place,

which we did, receiving several volleys of canister before we reached it. The enemy left their guns, which we took, and the regiment was employed for several hours after in gathering up prisoners and searching through the various buildings of the place. This was about half-past one o'clock, A. M. The cavalry did not enter the place until some two hours after, by which time we had secured a large number of prisoners, besides many negroes. Our regiment was kept in the place all night. Several companies were detailed to guard the prisoners and perform picket duty. The cavalry had nothing to do at all with the capture of the place, and, if General Stuart's cavalry were under fire, they must have taken the grape which passed over us as intended for themselves.

W. S. RANKIN,

*Major Twenty-first North Carolina Regiment.*

BYRD SNOW,

*Captain Company C.*

JOHN W. MILLER,

*First Lieutenant Company D.*

W. R. MARTIN,

*First Lieutenant Company H.*

A. ALSPAUGH,

*Third Lieutenant Company D.*

J. P. OAKES,

*Second Lieutenant Company A.*

'TWIST SNOW,

*Second Lieutenant Company C.*

L. C. JAMES,

*First Lieutenant Company L.*

J. A. COBBS,

*Third Lieutenant Company K.*

A. M. JOHNSON,

*Second Brevet Lieutenant Company H.*

W. L. TFOHL,

*Captain Company L.*

J. MILLER,

*First Lieutenant Company A.*

M. C. MOORE,

*First Lieutenant Company I.*

D. J. COCKESHAW,

*Second Lieutenant Company H.*

C. T. CLAYTON,

*Second Lieutenant Company L.*

J. L. PRATT,

*First Lieutenant Company K.*

CALVIN CREWS,

*Third Lieutenant Company K.*

J. S. DISK,

*First Lieutenant Company L.*

S. F. STUART,

*Second Lieutenant Company M.*

CAMP OF TWENTY-FIRST GEORGIA REGIMENT,  
 April 10, 1863.

The undersigned, officers of the twenty-first Georgia regiment, were present and participated in the capture of Manassas Junction on the night of the 26th August last. After a fatiguing march, arrived at Bristoe Station about night, and then recommenced the march to Manassas Junction with the twenty-first North Carolina regiment, commanded by Brigadier General Trimble. We attacked and captured Manassas Junction about twelve o'clock, this regiment charging and capturing a battery of artillery, four pieces, and about seventy prisoners, including a lieutenant colonel and several commissioned officers. We were fired into with shell, canister and musketry, which we returned, and then charged. We placed pickets out and guarded the approaches of the Junction on the left side, which were maintained until after day. About sunrise, Stuart's cavalry arrived in the town. We had not previously seen them, nor any other troops, except those of our brigade.

THOMAS G. GLOVER,

*Major commanding Twenty-first Georgia on August 26th.*

WESLEY KENNAN,

*Captain Company G.*

A. C. WATKINS,

*Captain Company A.*

W. J. WARREN,

*First Lieutenant commanding Company I.*

K. R. FOSTER,

*First Lieutenant commanding Company H.*

J. W. PATRICK,

*Second Lieutenant commanding Company K.*

J. H. TUCKER,

*First Lieutenant commanding Company B.*

E. M. HENDERSON,

*Company F.*

GENERAL TRIMBLE: As a question has been raised as to whom is due the honor of capturing Manassas, I do, with pleasure, General, state that I was present with your brigade, in which my regiment, the twenty first North Carolina, was, on the night of the capture of Manassas Junction, which took place, I think, on the 26th of August last. About ten or eleven o'clock, P. M., I went, with my regiment, beyond the railroad junction proper, till they reached the first redoubt on the railroad, which our forces had thrown up in 1861, and there remained. The regiments marched on, on either side of the railroad, and had not proceeded more than a few hundred yards, when the enemy opened fire upon the brigade. Shortly after this, I started back

to Bristoe Station to bring forward the ambulances, which had been left behind. I had gone back fully half a mile this side, west of the junction proper, and at least a mile and a quarter in rear of where I left your brigade, when I was halted by a cavalry picket, which was composed of members of the sixth Virginia cavalry. In conversation with them, they asked me whether the Junction had been captured, etc., and told me their regiment was stationed near there, which I approached and saw. This was the nearest point to the Junction at which I saw any cavalry.

Yours, very respectfully,

H. SHEPPERD,

*Captain and A. A. G., Twenty-first North Carolina Regiment.*

REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL McLAWS OF OPERATIONS  
BELOW RICHMOND, SUBSEQUENT TO BATTLES OF  
RICHMOND.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION, }  
August 9, 1862. }

Colonel R. H. CHILTON,  
*Adjutant General to General Lee:*

SIR: In compliance with orders from department headquarters, received after six, A. M., on 6th instant, to march, with my command, to the junction of the Charles City and Long Bridge roads, I moved with the brigades of Colonel Barksdale and General Semmes, and two regiments of the South Carolina brigades, (all with me.) Not long after reaching the Charles City road the head of my column was halted, by coming up with that of General Ripley, moving in the same direction. I had not been informed of General Ripley's orders, nor, indeed, that he would move in that direction. The day was excessively warm, and the troops were marched slowly. Finding that General Ripley's column had halted about nine miles from here, a very considerable time, I rode forward and found General Ripley at Fisher's. He informed that he was constructing two rifle pits to strengthen his position. Shortly after my arrival, one of General Ripley's brigades was ordered forward to the junction, and the cavalry advanced. It was the general impression that the enemy had a very considerable force of cavalry on the left, and a large body of infantry in front. It was not until late in the day, that I discovered there was a regiment of two or three hundred or more of our own cavalry about the junction and Fisher's. The junction was occupied without opposition, nothing of the enemy being seen beyond their mounted pickets, which retired as our own advanced. The whole of Ripley's command was advanced, forming line of battle across the road at the junction, and having brigades supporting each other, at Fisher's house, where my whole division was in reserve. As night came on the troops bivouacked in the woods in advance of the junction, and in position elsewhere to meet any emergency. On the 7th instant, there was some delay owing to a portion of Ripley's troops not being supplied with rations. The advance was, however, commenced by a brigade being thrown forward and occupying the vicinity of the creek, between the parsonage and Willis' church—videttes and skirmishers occupying the parsonage and overlooking the battle-ground of July 1st. The other brigade of Ripley's and the whole command was ordered to march in easy supporting distance. A brigade also occupied Gatewood's to guard against any movement from the left. I then wrote to General Longstreet, and informing him of my movements, suggested that General Jones' command or a brigade be advanced from that side, taking its artillery. I did this because the road at the crossing of the creek, beyond Willis' church, had been blockaded by the enemy,

making it impassable for artillery. Shortly afterwards, it was reported that the enemy had abandoned Malvern Hill, and our cavalry occupied it. General Longstreet coming up, I rode forward with him to the "heights," and the brigades of Generals Rodes, Toombs and Jones coming forward, occupied them, at Dew's house and to the right and left. During the 6th and 7th, between thirty and forty stragglers were brought in from the enemy. All that were questioned spoke of a very large force of infantry occupying Malvern heights and the adjacent country, and of from three to six regiments of cavalry. More confidence was given to the reports of prisoners than otherwise would have been done, because it was believed they had purposely thrown themselves in the way of our pickets, wishing to be captured. Many stated that General Heintzelman was in command on Malvern Hill, etc., etc. I saw nothing to indicate an intention of the enemy to occupy Malvern Hill permanently, or if such was their purpose, they had neglected the usual precaution of fortifications. I returned to my old camp on yesterday. I saw several men on the way prostrated with sun-stroke, and have understood that some of the cases proved fatal. The march would have been made during the night previous, but my commissary had estimated for subsistence stores, and they had been sent down to Fisher's and unloaded in the field during his absence, the wagons in which they came returning to town.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS,  
*Major General.*

REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL McLAWS OF OPERATIONS  
ABOUT HARPER'S FERRY.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION, *October 18, 1862.*

Colonel R. H. CHILTON,  
*Adjutant General:*

SIR: On the 10th ultimo, in compliance with special order, No. 191, of September 9th, 1862, from your headquarters, I proceeded with my own and General Anderson's division, via Buckettsville, to Pleasant Valley to take possession of Maryland Heights and endeavor to capture the enemy at Harper's Ferry and vicinity. I reached the valley on the 11th.

Pleasant Valley runs north and south, and is bounded on the east by the Blue Ridge, on the west by Elk Ridge, the southern portion of which ridge being more specially designated as Maryland Heights. The distance across, in an air line, between the summits of the two ridges, being about two and a half or three miles. The valley itself is rolling and irregular, having one main road along or near the foot of the Blue Ridge, and there is another along the base of Elk Ridge; but it is very much out of repair, and not much used.

The Potomac river runs along the south ends of both ridges, Harper's Ferry town being on the opposite side of the river, but entirely commanded by Maryland Heights, from which a plunging fire, from musketry even, can be made into the place. The Baltimore and Ohio railroad, the turnpike to Frederick, Maryland, through Middletown, and the canal to Washington city, pass along the south end of the Blue Ridge, there being just enough space for them between the mountains and the river. They also pass under the south end of Maryland Heights, where a crowded space has been made by blasting the rocks for a very considerable distance. The railroad bridge crosses the river just under the precipice of Maryland Heights, and about fifty yards above it the Yankees had a pontoon bridge for wagons, etc. The railroad bridge was defended by cannon placed on the further end; the narrow causeway along the river under Elk Ridge, by cannon placed under the precipice and on the road. The river there is near four hundred yards wide. On the west slope of Elk Ridge, the enemy had their heavy guns placed so as to command the approaches along the road and the town on the opposite side, and I believe the road coming from the west; and they also swept Boliver Heights, which defended the approaches to the town from the side between the Shenandoah and the Potomac west and south.

So long as Maryland Heights was occupied by the enemy, Harper's Ferry could never be occupied by us. If we gained possession of the heights, the town was no longer tenable to them.

Pleasant Valley was approached from the east, first by the railroad, turnpike and canal, at the south end of Blue Ridge. Second, By a road over the ridge, passing Buckettsville, a small town, about a mile or less from the foot of the Blue Ridge over Brownsville Gap,

and by another through a gap to the north of the last named road, known as Crampton's Gap. The two last were about one mile apart. The second road was distant from the one along the south end of the ridge four miles. Thus Crampton's Gap was five miles from the first road along the Potomac.

Passing from the valley, going west, were two roads, one along the south end of Maryland Heights, already mentioned, and another through Solomon's Gap, a slight depression in Elk Ridge, about five miles north of the first. At the south end of Blue Ridge, and just at the commencement of the pass, coming from the east, is the small town of Weverton. About half-way between that place and Harper's Ferry, along the turnpike, is another small place called Sindy Hook. The road from Sandy Hook ran about the middle of the valley, and joined the main road along the foot of the Blue Ridge, two miles from the Potomac. Understanding that there was a road running from the top of Solomon's Gap along the ridge, to the heights commanding Harper's Ferry, I directed General Kershaw, with his brigade and that of General Barksdale, to proceed along that road and carry the heights, using infantry alone, as the character of the country forbade the use of any other arm. On the 12th, he proceeded to carry out the order. I then directed a brigade of General Anderson's division—General Wright's—to ascend the Blue Ridge with two pieces of artillery, and, proceeding down to the point overlooking Weverton, to command the approach to the pass there, along the turnpike, railroad and canal. General Semmes was left opposite the gap; the troops had passed over into the valley (the one next south of Crampton's Gap), with his own and General Mahone's brigade, commanded by Colonel Parham, with orders to send a brigade to the top of Solomon's Gap, to protect the rear of General Kershaw, and also to take precautions to guard the pass over the Blue Ridge. General Cobb's brigade was directed to cross the valley, and, marching along its base, to keep in communication with General Kershaw above and up to his advance, so as to give support if possible, if it was needed, and to serve as a rallying force should any disaster render such necessary.

I then moved down the valley towards the river, with the rest of the command, the inhabitants generally impressing it upon me that Maryland Heights was lined with cannon for a mile and a half. The main force was kept with the advance of General Kershaw, of which I was constantly informed by signal parties, stationed on the heights, moving with General Kershaw. General Kershaw soon encountered the skirmishers of the enemy, and drove them before him until darkness put an end to the conflict. General Wright gained his position without opposition, and at sundown General Anderson pushed forward a brigade, (General Pryor's,) as I directed and, took possession of Weverton, and disposed the troops to effectually defend the pass.

The brigades of Generals Armistead and Cobb were moved up, forming a line across the valley from the right, commanding the road from Sandy Hook.

On the 13th, Gen. Kershaw, after a very sharp and spirited engagement, through the dense woods, and over a very broken surface, (there-

being no road from the point where he had ceased operations the night previous,) and across two abattis, (the last quite a formidable work, the east and west side being precipices of thirty or forty feet, and across the ridge were breastworks of heavy logs and large rock,) succeeded in carrying the main ridge, where the enemy had a telegraph station, and by four and a half, P. M., we had possession of the entire heights, the enemy going down a road which they had constructed on the side opposite the ferry, invisible to our troops from the valley, and were fired on by our skirmishers as they crossed the pontoon bridge to Harper's Ferry town. The report concerning cannon along the heights, proved to be false, as the enemy used but one battery on the heights, and that was placed on the road towards Harper's Ferry, and was withdrawn so soon as the main ridge was carried. The battery of heavy guns placed on the west slope of the mountains, which, during the day fired frequently on the storming party and dropped shells into Pleasant Valley, was spiked and abandoned at the same time.

The troops in the valley were then advanced, and General Cobb's brigade occupied Sandy Hook, with but little resistance, the enemy having abandoned the place, with their main force of fifteen hundred men, on the night previous, leaving several hundred new muskets and other stores. The road then from Harper's Ferry, which prevented egress from the place coming east, was now completely commanded.

Up to this time, I had received no notice of the advance of either General Jackson or General Walker, except that a courier from General Jackson brought a despatch from him to the effect that he hoped his leading division would be near Harper's Ferry about two o'clock on this day, and some firing in that direction led to the belief that he was advancing.

During the day, heavy cannonading was heard to the east and north east, and the cavalry scouts were constantly reporting the advance of the enemy from various directions; but the truth of these reports was questionable, as the look-out from the mountains saw nothing to confirm them.

The morning of the 14th was employed in cutting a road to the top of Maryland Heights, practicable for artillery. Major McLaws, of my staff, had examined the ground, and, reporting a road practicable, was directed to make one, and by two o'clock, P. M., Captain Read and Captain Carleton, under the direction of Major Hamilton, chief of artillery, had two pieces from each of their batteries in position, overlooking Bolivar Heights and the town. Fire was opened at once, driving the enemy from their works on the right of Bolivar Heights, and throwing shells into the town.

In the meanwhile, General Walker, who had informed me of his arrival, after dark, on the 13th instant, had opened fire from Loudon Heights, and General Jackson's batteries were playing from several points.

Hearing of an advance of the enemy towards the gap, over which the command had passed into Pleasant Valley, I had, about twelve o'clock, ordered General Cobb to return with his brigade to the

camp, near the point where the road came into the valley, and directed General Semmes to withdraw the brigade from Solomon's Gap, leaving a mere guard, and to tell General Cobb, on his arrival in the vicinity, to take command of Crampton's Gap. The gap was over five miles from the positions of my main force. I was on Maryland Heights directing and observing the fire of our guns, when I heard cannonading in the direction of Crampton's Gap; but I felt no particular concern about it, as there were three brigades of infantry in the vicinity, besides the cavalry of Colonel Munford; and General Stuart, who was with me on the heights, and had just come in from above, told me he did not believe there was more than a brigade of the enemy. I however sent my adjutant general to General Cobb, as also Major Goggin, of my staff, with directions to hold the gap if he lost his last man in doing it, and shortly afterwards went down the mountain and started towards the gap. On my way, with General Stuart, I met my adjutant general returning, who informed me that the enemy had forced the gap, and that reinforcements were needed by General Cobb. I at once ordered up Wilcox's brigade, commanded by Colonel Alfred Cumming, of the tenth Georgia regiment, who had been detached from General Semmes' brigade for that purpose, and rode towards the gap. Fortunately, night came on, and allowed a new arrangement of the troops to be made to meet the changed aspect of affairs.

The brigades of Generals Kershaw and Barksdale, excepting one regiment of the latter and two pieces of artillery, were withdrawn from the heights, leaving the regiment and two rifle pieces on the main heights overlooking the town, and formed line of battle across the valley, about one and a half miles below Crampton's Gap, with the remnant of the brigades of Generals Cobb, Semmes and Mahone, and that of Wilcox, Kershaw and Barksdale, which was placed specially under command of General Anderson. Generals Wright and Pryor were kept in position guarding the Weverton Pass, and Generals Armistead and Featherston, that from Harper's Ferry. That place was not yet taken, and I had but to wait and watch the movements of the enemy.

It was necessary to guard their positions—*first*, to present a front against the enemy advancing down the valley; *second*, to prevent them from escaping from Harper's Ferry, and acting in conjunction with their troops in front; *third*, to prevent an entrance at Weverton Pass.

The force of the enemy engaged and in reserve at Crampton's Gap was estimated to be from fifteen to twenty-five thousand and upwards.

The loss in those brigades engaged was, in killed, wounded and missing, very large, and the remnant collected to make front across the valley, was very small.

I had despatched Lieutenant Tucker, my aid-de-camp, with a courier and guide, to report to General Lee the condition of affairs; but, on getting beyond our forces, he rode suddenly on a strong picket of the enemy, was halted and fired on by them as he turned and

dashed back. The courier was killed; but Lieutenant Tucker and the guide escaped. General Stuart had, however, started couriers before that, and sent others from time to time during the night, and I, therefore, was satisfied that General Lee would be informed before morning. The 15th, the enemy did not advance, nor did they offer any opposition to the troops taking position across the valley. The line to oppose them from that direction was therefore formed, and the artillery posted to the best advantage. Our artillery on Maryland Heights fired on the enemy below so soon as light permitted. About ten o'clock, A. M., it was telegraphed to me from Maryland Heights that the enemy at Harper's Ferry had hoisted a white flag and had ceased firing. I at once ordered the troops which were defending the pass from Harper's Ferry to advance their skirmishers along the road to the bridge, or until they were fired on, and directed all the trains to be sent towards the Ferry, still keeping the line of battle opposed to that of the enemy above. They, in the meantime, were planting batteries on the Blue Ridge to operate against the artillery on the left of the valley, looking north, which had been advantageously placed in position by my chief of artillery, Major Hamilton, along the line formed across the valley.

My aid-de-camp, Lieutenant Tucker, had been sent to communicate with General Jackson, in Harper's Ferry, and he, returning, reported that General Jackson wished to see me. The enemy showing no disposition to advance, I left the command to General Anderson, with directions to push the trains across the river as far as possible, and follow with the infantry when the trains were well over. I then rode over, and received orders to proceed to Sharpsburg, with all possible dispatch. I returned to Pleasant Valley, and, as the troops had been gradually withdrawn, I formed a new line across at the foot of the valley, still holding Maryland Heights and Weverton Pass, and waited until near two o'clock, when the trains having passed over the river, the troops were withdrawn to the right bank, and, marching through Harper's Ferry, camped near Halltown, four miles distant, about eight o'clock on the 16th instant. The troops that were engaged in the attack and capture of Maryland Heights are entitled to especial commendation, as they were laboriously employed for two days and one night along the summit of Elk Ridge, constantly working their way under fire during the day, and at night resting in position, all this time without water, as none could be obtained but from the valley beneath, one mile down the mountain, and at the close of the contest there was not a straggler from the two brigades.

General Kershaw, who had special command of this force, acted in this instance, as he has in all others when under my command, with great skill, coolness and daring, and is deserving of special praise. I refer you to his report for other particulars of the engagement, and for the operations of the brigade of General Barksdale, which accompanied him and materially assisted in the capture of the place.

Seeing that the canal was full of water about Weverton, I directed General Pryor, if tools could be obtained, to cut the canal just above

a culvert near the place, which he did, and thinks the canal was materially damaged. He also broke the canal lock.

The enemy having forced Crampton's Gap, thereby completely cutting off my route up the valley to join the forces with General Lee—as Solomon's Gap, the only road over Elk Ridge, was just in front of the one over the Blue Ridge, occupied by the enemy, I had nothing to do but to defend my position. I could not retire under the bluffs along the river, with the enemy pressing my rear and the forces at Harper's Ferry operating in conjunction, unless under a combination of circumstances I could not rely on to happen at the exact time needed. I could not pass over the mountain, except in a scattered and disorganized condition. Nor could I have gone through the Weverton Pass into the open country beyond, to cross a doubtful ford, when the enemy was in force on the other side of the Blue Ridge and coming down in my rear. There was no outlet in any direction for anything but the troops, and that very doubtful. In no contingency could I have saved the trains and artillery. I therefore determined to defend myself in the valley, holding the two heights and the two lower passes, in order to force a direct advance down the valley, to prevent co-operation from Harper's Ferry, and at the same time to carry out my orders in relation to the capture of that place.

I received several communications from your headquarters in relation to my position, which were obeyed, so far as circumstances permitted, and I acted, in departing from them, as I believed the commanding General would have ordered had he known the circumstances. The force in Harper's Ferry was nearly, if not quite equal to my own, and that above was far superior.

No attempt was made to co-operate from Harper's Ferry with the force above, and the force above did not press down upon me because, I believe, General Lee offered battle at Sharpsburg. The early surrender of Harper's Ferry relieved me from the situation, and my command joined the main army at Sharpsburg on the morning of the 17th September.

My special thanks are due to General Anderson, whose division was under my command, for his advice and assistance, and the cordial co-operation of all in generally performing their whole duties.

The operations at Crampton's Gap I give in a separate paper.

To the members of my staff, Major McIntosh, A. A. G.; Major Goggins; Major McLaws; Major Edwards, A. C. S.; chief surgeon of division, Surgeon Gilmore; Captain King, who accompanied General Kershaw during the whole of his operations on the heights; Capt. Costin; Lieut. Tucker, A. D. C.; Capt. Taliaferro and Lieut. Edwards, ordnance officers, I am indebted for their aid and active assistance. Captain Manning, who had charge of the signal corps, being unable to attend to his duties, from a sudden attack of erysipelas in the head, Captain Costin took charge of the party, and it rendered very great service during the three days it was required. Lieutenant Campbell, of the engineers, also distinguished himself for his activity in reconnoitering the position of the enemy.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS, Major General.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION, October 21, 1862.

Colonel R. H. CHILTON, *A. A. G.:*

I enclose herewith a report of the operations of my command in Pleasant Valley, Maryland. There are particular reasons why I should make a special report of the engagement at Crampton's Gap, to do which, however, it is necessary to obtain reports from Colonel Munford, who was first in command, and from Colonel Parham, Mahone's brigade, who came next after and made the dispositions previous to the arrival of General Cobb.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS, *Major General.*

# REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL McLAWS OF BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION, October 20, 1862.

To the Adjutant General,

Headquarters of General Longstreet:

SIR: On the morning of the 16th of September, ultimo, my command, consisting of my own division and that of General Anderson, marched through Harper's Ferry from Pleasant Valley, and halted near Halltown, a short distance from the road, which turned to the right towards Shepherdstown, which was on the way to Sharpsburg, to which place I had been directed to march, by orders direct from General Lee and afterwards from General Jackson.

The entire command was very much fatigued. The brigades of Generals Kershaw and Barksdale had been engaged on Maryland Heights on the 12th, 13th and 14th, and on the 15th had been marched from the heights to the line of battle up the valley, formed to oppose that of the enemy below Crampton's Gap. Those of Generals Cobb and Semmes and Mahone, (Colonel Parham,) had been engaged and badly crippled at Crampton's Gap, and all the others had been guarding important points under very trying circumstances. A large number had no provisions, and a great portion had not had time or opportunity to cook what they had. All the troops had been without sleep during the night previous, except while waiting in line for the wagon trains to pass over the pontoon bridge at Harper's Ferry.

I had ridden on to Charlestown to look after the sick and wounded from Pleasant Valley, when notice was sent me to hasten the troops to Sharpsburg. I returned to camp and started the command at three, P. M.; halted after dark, (and the night was very dark,) within two miles of Shepherdstown, where, receiving orders to hasten forward, again commenced the march at twelve o'clock that night, many of the regiments still without provisions. I may here state that the crossing at Harper's Ferry was very much impeded by the paroled prisoners, passing over the bridge, whenever there was an opportunity offered by any accident to the bridge, causing temporary halt in the trains or batteries, which was of frequent occurrence, and the streets of Harper's Ferry town were crowded with prisoners and wagons, all of which prevented me from halting even for a moment in the town to obtain provisions there.

On the morning of the 17th, about sunrise, the head of my column reached the vicinity of General Lee's headquarters, near Sharpsburg.

I rode on to the town looking for General Lee, and on my return, not finding him, met General Longstreet, who directed me to send General Anderson's division direct down the road to the hill beyond Sharpsburg, where he would receive orders. I learned from him where General Lee's camp was and reported to General Lee for orders. He

directed me to halt my division near to his headquarters, which was done, and I then rode back to hasten up General Anderson, whose division was in the rear. About an hour after this, my division was ordered to the front by an aid-de-camp of General Lee's—Major Taylor. In about one mile, we came in rear of the position, which was pointed out by Major Ratchford, of General D. H. Hill's staff, as the one the division was to occupy. I was, of course, entirely ignorant of the ground and of the location of the troops. General Hood, however, who was present, pointed out the direction for the advance, and my line of battle was rapidly formed—General Cobb's brigade on the right, next General Kershaw's, General Barksdale and General Semmes on the left. Just in front of the line was a large body of woods, from which parties of our troops, of whose command I do not know, were seen retiring, and the enemy, I could see, were advancing rapidly, occupying the place. My advance was ordered before the entire line of General Kershaw could be formed. As the enemy were filling the woods so rapidly, I wished my troops to cross the open space between us and the woods before they were entirely occupied. It was made steadily and in perfect order and the troops were immediately engaged, driving the enemy before them in magnificent style, at all points, sweeping the woods with perfect ease, and inflicting great loss on the enemy. They were driven not only through the woods, but over a field in front of the woods, and over two high fences beyond and into another body of woods over a half a mile distant from the commencement of the fight.

The men were scattered by the engagement through the woods, where the enemy made their only stand, and there being no immediate support, the several brigades fell back into the woods, and the line, to maintain the position, was formed by the brigades of General Ransom, Walker's division, and of General Armistead, General Anderson's division, which had been sent to my support, of General Early, which was already in position, and the brigades of Generals Barksdale and Kershaw. Captain Read's battery had been placed in position on the right of the woods, which we had entered, and did most excellent service; but it was exposed to such a severe fire, General Kershaw ordered it back, after losing fourteen officers and men and sixteen horses. Another battery, Capt. Carleton's, which I had ordered into position in the woods, in front of General Ransom's brigade, was so severely cut up in a short time by the direct and cross fires of numerous batteries, that I ordered it to retire. The enemy did not make an attempt to retake the woods after they were driven from them, as I have mentioned, but kept up a terrific fire of artillery. There was an incessant storm of shot and shell, grape and canister; but the loss inflicted by the artillery was comparatively very small. Fortunately, the woods were on the side of a hill, the main slope of which was towards us, with numerous ledges of rock all along it. Thus it was our men, although under this fire for hours, suffered so little from it.

I could do nothing but defend the position my division occupied. The line was too weak to attempt an advance. There were not men

enough to make a continuous single line. In some places, for a considerable distance, there were no men at all; while just beyond us, across an open field, about four or five hundred yards distant, were the lines of the enemy, apparently double and treble, supporting numerous batteries, which crossed fire over every portion of the ground. The artillery of the enemy was so far superior to ours in weight of metal, character of gun and numbers, and in quality of ammunition, that there was but very little to be gained by opposing ours to it, and I therefore did not renew the attempt after the first experiment.

The ground over which the Mississippi brigade, General Barksdale, advanced, and to his right, was thickly strewn with the dead and wounded of the enemy, far exceeding our own, and their dead were much more numerous than their wounded. The close proximity of the combatants to each other may account for the disproportion.

General Cobb's brigade going in, extended itself further to the right than I intended, but the Colonel commanding, Colonel Sanders, twenty-fourth Georgia, did not learn my orders to correct the error, so it is reported, and the engagement commencing immediately, the brigade went on to a position several hundred yards to the right of the woods and defended it.

General Semmes was sent to the left, just after his brigade came on the ground, by direction of General Jackson, to give support to General Stuart. His brigade drove the enemy through the woods and beyond them for a considerable distance.

General Kershaw's brigade was more exposed in its first advance than any other, as it had to move over a large open space, before reaching the woods, which there afforded less protection; but the command went in with enthusiasm, and drove the enemy up to their batteries and reserves, and then retired to the woods from which they had first driven the enemy, as did the other brigades of Cobb, Semmes and Barksdale, because of the weakness of their own lines, the want of immediate support, the want of ammunition, and the fatigue of the men. I call attention to the fact that Colonel Nance, commanding the third South Carolina regiment, of General Kershaw's brigade, brought his regiment from the ground in perfect order, and formed it in the rear, to be supplied with ammunition, with the precision of a parade. This perfect control of his men is owing to the high state of discipline and good drill for which his regiment is distinguished.

General Barksdale reformed on the ground he went over; General Semmes was placed in reserve in his rear; General Cobb's brigade on the left of General Kershaw, who had previously moved to the left of the line.

The enemy having abandoned their attempt to advance, I had an opportunity to examine the relative positions of our troops and those of the enemy, and soon became convinced that we had nothing to gain by an advance of our troops. The strong position of the enemy was along the Antietam, the right bank of which (the side towards our army) was swept by numerous batteries of artillery, posted along the left banks, which commanded the right. Their position along the left bank was a very strong one, having the Antietam in

their front and Maryland Heights in their rear. For us to force them back on the Antietam was to force them to concentration in their reserves, of which we had none, to weaken our lines and scatter our troops, so that in the event of a reverse, no rally of any considerable body could be made, and the final result would not probably have been such as to have entitled us to claim as we now can, the battle of Sharpsburg as one of the greatest successes, if not the greatest success of the war, when the enormous disparity between our forces and those of the Yankees are considered.

Brigadier Generals Kershaw, Semmes and Barksdale deserve high praise for their heroic conduct in the fight, and for the skillful manner their brigades were handled.

Colonel Sanders, of twenty-fourth Georgia, who commanded Cobb's brigade during the first part of the engagement, carried it forward in good order, and the brigade maintained its position and drove the enemy for some distance, retiring, after losing forty-three per cent of its strength. Lieutenant Colonel McRae, of the fifteenth North Carolina regiment, commanded the brigade during the latter part of the fight.

The losses in the different brigades, including the different batteries, were as follows:

COMMANDS.	CARRIED INTO ACTION.		KILLED AND WOUNDED.			GENERAL AVERAGE.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Missing.	
Brigadier General Kershaw, ...	112	824	44	305	6	38
Brigadier General Semmes, ...	63	646	27	281	6	44
Brigadier General Barksdale,	89	802	32	258	4	33
Brigadier General Cobb, .... {	not known	357	11	135	10	43
Total.....	264	2,629	114	979	26	

which, taken in connection with the small number of missing, shows how dearly, yet how gloriously, this success was obtained.

It is with sincere regret, that I have to state my Adjutant General, Major T. S. McIntosh, was killed dead, shot through the heart, while carrying out one of my orders. The country has lost in him as brave and gallant an officer and gentleman as any that survives him.

My Inspector General, Major Goggins, was with me during the day, carrying orders and superintending their execution, in the performance of which duties he exhibited great daring, and cool, sound judgment.

To Captain King and Lieutenant Tucker, aids-de-camp and Captain Costin, signal officer; Lieutenant Campbell, of the engineers, and Lieutenant Edwards, ordnance officer, I am indebted for their zeal and activity. Their gallantry was conspicuous in the performance of their duties.

Colonel Henry Coulter Cabell, chief of artillery, who had been ab-

sent sick, joined me on the field, and remained during the rest of the engagement.

I enclose reports of brigade commanders, and call attention to their notices of individual merit.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS,

*Major General.*

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL EARLY, COMMANDING DIVISION, OF OPERATIONS FROM AUGUST 16TH TO SEPTEMBER 27TH, 1862.

HEADQUARTERS EWELL'S DIVISION, }  
January 12, 1863. }

Captain A. S. PENDLETON,  
*A. A. General, Second Corps:*

CAPTAIN: In accordance with instructions from the headquarters of the corps, I submit the following report of the operations of this division since the movement from the neighborhood of Gordonsville, northward, in the month of August last, until it reached Bunker Hill, in September:

This report, however, is necessarily defective in regard to all the other brigades of the division except my own, as there were other division commanders until after the commencement of the battle of Sharpsburg, on the 17th of September, Major General Ewell having commanded until the night of the 28th of August, when he was wounded in the action near Groveton, and Brigadier General Lawton having command from that time until he was wounded at the battle of Sharpsburg. It is impossible to supply the necessary information in regard to the particular parts taken by Lawton's and Trimble's brigades in the several actions commencing with the affairs of Hazel river, on the 22d, and Bristoe and Manassas Junction, on the 27th of August, and ending with the battle of Sharpsburg, except as to the part taken by Trimble's brigade at Sharpsburg, as General Lawton, who commanded his brigade until the 29th of August, is absent in Georgia, wounded, and Colonel Douglas, who commanded the brigade from the 29th of August to the 17th of September, was killed at Sharpsburg on that day, and General Trimble, who commanded his brigade until the 29th August, is absent, wounded, and Captain Brown, of the twelfth Georgia regiment, who succeeded him in the command, was killed at Ox Hill, near Chantilly, on the 1st of September. There is the same difficulty in regard to Hays' brigade as to the part taken by it on the 30th of August, at Manassas, and at Ox Hill, on the 1st of September, as Colonel Strong, who commanded on these occasions, was killed at Sharpsburg.

This report, therefore, will not contain particular details of the operations of any brigade but my own, in most of the actions in which the division was engaged during the time covered by it.

MARCH FROM VICINITY OF GORDONSVILLE TO THE RAPPAHANNOCK.

On the 16th of August, the division moved from Liberty Mills, in Orange county, to Mountain Run, in the same county, near Clarke's Mountain, below Rapidan Station, where it remained until the 20th, when it crossed the Rapidan at Cunningham's ford and bivouacked

near Stevensburg, in Culpeper. On the next day it moved past Brandy Station and bivouacked near St. James' church, on the road towards a ford on the Rappahannock, above the railroad station and below the mouth of Hazel river.

The next day it moved in the direction of that ford, and, on arriving there, the enemy being in position on the opposite bank to dispute the passage, the division was moved to the left, Lawton's brigade leading, crossing Hazel river at a mill and then moving in the direction of a ford on the Rappahannock, above the mouth of Hazel river, where the enemy was also found in force, and the division was then again moved to the left in the direction of the ford at Warrenton Springs, by a route through fields and woods, so as not to be exposed to view. At the two fords above mentioned, and in moving therefrom, the division was exposed to shells fired from the enemy's batteries, and sustained slight loss.

In moving to the left across Hazel river, General Trimble, with his brigade, was left behind to observe the enemy, and had a fight with a body of the enemy which had crossed from the north bank of the Rappahannock and was threatening the trains, and succeeded in driving it back across the river; but I am unable to give the particulars of this affair.

#### CROSSING OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK AND AFFAIR AT WARRENTON SPRINGS, AUGUST 23D.

The remainder of the division proceeded to the vicinity of the Warrenton Springs, on the southern bank, and late in the afternoon, the thirteenth Georgia regiment, of Lawton's brigade, under Colonel Douglas, was crossed at the Springs, capturing a few cavalrymen on picket at that place. Brown's and Dement's batteries, of four guns each, were also crossed over at this point. My own brigade, under the superintendance of General Ewell, who was acting under General Jackson's orders, was crossed over about a mile below the Springs, on an old dilapidated dam, formerly built for purposes of navigation, and Hays' brigade, under Colonel Forno, was ordered to follow; but as my brigade did not succeed in crossing until it was nearly dark, and the crossing was exceedingly difficult, Hays' brigade was left on the south bank for the night.

My orders were to occupy a wood on the north bank of the river, immediately in front of the place at which I crossed, and to establish communications with General Lawton, the whole of whose brigade, I was informed, would cross over at the Springs. Before I was ordered to cross over, there had been quite a heavy shower of rain, which had somewhat swollen the river, and it was raining when I crossed. I moved the brigade into the woods indicated, General Ewell having recrossed after seeing the whole of my brigade over. In extending the left into the woods on a line parallel with the river, a road was found running from the Springs through this body of woods, towards the fords and Rappahannock Station below. My left was posted near this road, the right extending to an old field just be-

low where I had crossed. Pickets were put out in front and on the flanks, and Major A. L. Pitzer, my volunteer aid, was despatched to find his way to the Springs and communicate with General Lawton. It had become exceedingly dark by this time, and Major Pitzer, in endeavoring to get to the Springs, rode upon a party of six of the enemy's cavalry, who had passed up the road a few moments before we had reached it.

He was made a prisoner by this party, who were endeavoring to make their way to the Springs, but, finding some difficulty in the way, had halted. After he had been compelled to surrender his arms, the party started with him back on the road they had come, and the Major, with great presence of mind, informed them that they were all his prisoners; that if they attempted to pass out in any direction they would be fired upon by some of our pickets, as they were completely surrounded; but, if they submitted to his direction, he would take them in safe, which they concluded to do, and the Major did actually bring them in as prisoners after they had captured him. After this attempt, I did not deem it prudent to make another effort to establish communication with the Springs that night, as it was very dark and threatening rain, and there was no one in the command who had sufficient knowledge of the localities to find the way.

During the night there was a very heavy rain, and in the morning I found that the river had become very much swollen and was so high as to defy all attempts at crossing, and a messenger sent to the Springs returned with the information that only the thirteenth Georgia regiment, of Lawton's brigade, had crossed over the night before. As soon as I ascertained the condition of things, I despatched a note for General Ewell or General Jackson, whichever should be first met with, informing them of my condition and that, if the enemy should come upon me with heavy force, my whole command must be captured, and suggesting the propriety of my attempting to extricate my force, with that at the Springs, by moving up the river towards Waterloo bridge; this was sent by a messenger, with direction to swim the river with it, if possible. Before this note could be delivered, I received a verbal message from General Jackson, which had been delivered across the river at the Springs and was brought to me by a sergeant of one of the batteries at that place, directing me to move up towards the Springs and take command of all the force there, and post my command, with the left flank resting on the river and the right on a creek, to the north of the Springs, which emptied into the river below and was past fording also, there being no enemy in the fork, and stating that he was having the bridge repaired across the river, which would soon be in a condition for infantry to pass over. In a short time afterwards, I received a note from General Jackson, in response to mine, containing similar instructions and directing me, in addition, to move up towards Waterloo bridge if the enemy appeared in too heavy force, keeping close to the river, and informing me that he would follow along the opposite bank, with his whole force, to cover my movement. I accordingly moved up towards the Springs, posting Colonel Walker, with his regiments, the thir-

teenth Virginia and the thirty-first Virginia, on the road, so as to protect my rear. On getting near the Springs, I found that Colonel Douglas had moved his regiment and the artillery to a hill just below the Springs, which runs across from the river to the creek mentioned, and along this I posted the twelfth Georgia regiment, the twenty-fifth, forty-fourth, forty ninth, fifty-second and fifty-eighth Virginia regiments, with the thirteenth Georgia on the left, all being so disposed as to present a front to the northwest, the rear being guarded by Colonel Walker with the thirteenth and thirty-first Virginia regiments, and the right flank, which was the only one exposed, being secure for a short time on account of the condition of the creek, which is called Great Run. Companies were thrown out on this flank to prevent any attempt to cross the creek, and a bridge, which was partially flooded, was destroyed. A body of the enemy's cavalry was discovered early in the morning by Colonel Douglas on the north of the creek, and they were hovering around my right flank on the opposite side of the creek all the morning. During the morning General Jackson sent over an officer to pilot one of my staff officers over the route to Waterloo bridge, which it might be necessary to pass over in case of emergency, and my adjutant general, Major Hale, was sent with him to ascertain the route.

In the meantime, the creek began to fall rapidly, and in the afternoon it was in a condition to be crossed.

It also began to be evident that the enemy was moving up from below in heavy force, and that my command was in a critical condition. It was entirely concealed from the enemy's view by being posted in the woods, and this fact no doubt saved it, for it was evident the enemy was aware of the fact that a force was across the river, and, from the caution with which he moved, he thought it was much larger than it really was.

Late in the afternoon a heavy column of infantry, with artillery, made its appearance opposite to my right flank, and I then changed my front so as to present it towards the enemy, without, however, his being aware of it, as my whole movement was concealed from his view by the woods. The artillery was also so posted as not to be observed by him. About this time Colonel Robertson, with two or three regiments of cavalry and two pieces of artillery, came from the direction of Warrenton, and, after consulting with me, posted two pieces of artillery on the hill to the north of the Springs, which commanded a view of the enemy, and opened fire upon him. This was responded to by a battery of the enemy's in a few moments, and I sent two Parrott guns from Brown's battery to the assistance of Robertson's pieces, which were of short range, and a brisk cannonading was kept up until near sundown, with no damage, however, to my infantry or artillery, the only persons killed or wounded belonging to the cavalry, which happened to be in the line of the artillery fire, and in rear of our pieces. After the cessation of the artillery fire, a column of the enemy was observed to advance, it being then near dark, and a mist rendering objects quite indistinct. Infantry was also seen moving off to the left, and in a few moments the enemy

delivered a volley into the woods, where my infantry was posted, and then gave three cheers, followed by a tiger, in regular style. I had two of Captain Dement's Napoleon guns run to the left of my line, and infantry, to a point from which they could fire upon the enemy, and caused them to open with canister. This fire was so well directed, although objects could not be distinguished, that the enemy was thrown into confusion and driven back, as was manifest from the cries and groans of his men, which were plainly heard by ours. There was no further attack on me; but it was evident, from the noises heard and the reports of one or two persons who had seen columns of the enemy passing from below, that a heavy force was near at hand, and that preparations were being made to surround my force, and I sent a messenger to General Jackson with information as to the state of things, and by his directions the remainder of General Lawton's brigade was crossed over on the temporary bridge which had been constructed—the sixtieth regiment, under Major Berry, having been crossed over just before night.

General Lawton got over about one o'clock and informed me that he had seen written instructions to General Ewell, directing him to cross over himself at daylight, and if it was evident the enemy was in heavy force, to recross the troops, as it was not desired to have a general engagement at that place. I immediately despatched a messenger to General Ewell to inform him that there was no doubt of the enemy's being in heavy force, and if I was to be recrossed it had better be done at once without waiting for daylight, as the enemy, by moving to the left, could place artillery so as to command the bridge and ford at the Springs, and from the sounds of carriages moving in that direction, I was satisfied such was his purpose and that it would be accomplished before I could recross, if it was postponed until daylight. In response to this, General Ewell came over a little before three o'clock, and, after consultation with me, gave the order for recrossing, which was accomplished, Lawton's brigade going first and carrying over the artillery by hand, and then my brigade following, the whole being completed very shortly after daylight. My command was thus rescued from almost certain capture, as it has since appeared from General Pope's report that he had brought up his whole force to attack what he supposed to be General Jackson's whole force. I lost no men killed or wounded, though a severe punishment must have been inflicted on the enemy by the canister from our artillery.

Our situation was felt by every officer and man to be of the most critical nature, and I cannot speak in too high terms of the deportment of the whole command. The men had had nothing to eat since the day they had crossed over, and for two nights and a day they lay upon their arms, yet they did not murmur, but exhibited the utmost resolution to repel the enemy at all hazards should he come. When the enemy fired his volleys into the woods where the men were posted they did not throw away ammunition, but coolly reserved their fire until the enemy should get to close quarters, determined to make it a death struggle.

This commendation is equally due to Colonel Douglas and his offi-

vers and men, and the officers and men of the two batteries mentioned, as to my own brigade. After recrossing, my brigade, as well as that of General Lawton, was moved back to the vicinity of Jeffersonton to rest and cook rations. .

**MOVEMENT UPON THE ENEMY'S LINE OF COMMUNICATION TO THE REAR,  
AND AFFAIRS AT BRISTOE STATION AND MANASSAS JUNCTION.**

Early on the morning of the 25th, the division moved, under orders from General Jackson, to Hinson's mill, above Waterloo bridge, where it crossed the Rappahannock, and then proceeded by Orlean and camped at night near Salem, in Fauquier county. Very early next morning it marched by Salem and through Thoroughfare Gap, in the direction of Gainesville, at which latter place it took the road to Bristoe Station, on the Orange and Alexandria railroad. The division which on this day, as well as on the day before, was in the advance, moved as follows: First, Hays' brigade, under Colonel Forno; second, Trimble's brigade; third, Lawton's brigade; fourth, my own brigade.

Hays' brigade reached the station a short time before sunset, just as several trains were approaching from the direction of Warrenton Junction. There being no force at this place except a small detachment of cavalry, which was soon dispersed, Colonel Forno succeeded in arresting and capturing two trains of empty cars, the first which approached making good its escape by forcing its way over the obstructions placed on the road towards Manassas Junction. General Trimble, as soon as he arrived, was detached with two regiments of his brigade to Manassas Junction, and the other brigades as they arrived, and Hays' brigade, were placed in position by Major General Ewell, so as to prevent surprise and any approach on the railroad. As soon as it was light next morning, the three brigades of the division left at Bristoe, were placed in position as follows: Lawton's brigade was posted on the left of the railroad, Hays' brigade on the right of it, and my own brigade to the right of Hays' in a pine wood, our line of battle being fronted towards Warrenton Junction and occupying a ridge a short distance from Bristoe in the direction of that junction. Colonel Forno, with four regiments of Hays' brigade and one of Lawton's, and one piece of artillery from D'Aquin's battery, was then ordered to the front to reconnoitre and destroy the bridge over Kettle run and tear up the track of the railroad. He found the enemy had brought up on a train of cars a body of infantry sufficient to fill nine cars; but, having doubtless discovered our force to be larger than was thought, was re-embarking it. A few shots from the piece of artillery were fired at the train and it made its way back again after receiving some damage. The sixth Louisiana, under Col. Strong, was left on picket two miles in front on the railroad, and the eighth Louisiana was put to work destroying the railroad bridge and tearing up the track, and Colonel Forno returned with the rest of the force. In the meantime, the fifteenth Alabama, of Trimble's brigade, and the twelfth Georgia regiment, of my own brigade, were

sent to join General Trimble at Manassas Junction, an order having been received for the transfer of the latter regiment. Under orders from General Ewell, later in the day, the forty-ninth Virginia, of my brigade, was moved to the right, on a road leading to Greenwich across a ridge that was to the right of our position. Brown's battery, from the artillery battalion, was posted on a hill in rear of the position of my brigade, and several pieces from two other batteries were posted further to the right on a ridge over which the road from Gainesville runs, supported by two regiments from Lawton's brigade, the whole being so posted as to command the open ground in front of the right of our position. A regiment from Lawton's brigade, (the sixtieth Georgia,) with one piece of artillery, was advanced on the left of the railroad so as to support Colonel Forno's two regiments that were in front, and Johnson's battery, of my brigade, was posted on the ridge between the position of Hays' brigade and my own and the rest of the batteries were posted on the left of the station. In the afternoon, indications were seen of the approach of heavy columns of the enemy from the direction of Warrenton Junction, and all the baggage wagons were ordered to move towards Manassas Junction. In a short time the enemy was seen approaching on the right of the railroad and in front of Hays' brigade, the sixth and eighth Louisiana regiments falling back and taking position in a wood three hundred or four hundred yards in front of the brigade. The enemy's force consisted of heavy columns of infantry, with artillery.

As soon as the enemy came in range, our artillery, from its several positions, opened on him, as did the sixth and eighth Louisiana and sixtieth Georgia regiments. By this combined fire, two columns of the enemy, of not less than a brigade each, were driven back, and the fifth Louisiana regiment was sent forward to reinforce the sixth and eighth. Fresh columns of the enemy were, however, seen advancing, and it became apparent that his force was much larger than ours, and the nature of the ground was such that by a movement to our right, which he was evidently making, he could obtain a position which commanded the rear of our line and the crossing of Broad Run. General Ewell then informed me that he had received orders from General Jackson to retire towards Manassas Junction if the enemy came in large force; and he gave the orders for the withdrawal of our force across Broad Run. At this time the Louisiana regiments were actively engaged, and a large body of the enemy was moving up, and the experiment had to be tried whether our troops could be withdrawn in good order. General Ewell directed me to cover the retiring of the troops with my brigade.

Lawton's brigade was first withdrawn across the ford at the railroad bridge, and then Hays' brigade followed, the regiments engaged in front having fallen back in good order. My own brigade was withdrawn from the pine woods in which it was, and formed in successive lines of battle so as to cover the ford at the bridge. All of the artillery was successfully crossed over, a part having crossed at

Millford, several hundred yards above the bridge, at which also the forty-ninth Virginia regiment crossed.

In the meantime, the enemy advanced in line of battle on both sides of the railroad, preceded by skirmishers, and keeping up a constant artillery fire. Lawton's brigade was formed in line of battle on the north bank of Broad Run, and some batteries were placed in position, and Hays' brigade was ordered to proceed to Manassas. After all the other brigades and the artillery had crossed, my own brigade was crossed over by regiments successively, the thirteenth Virginia, under Colonel Walker, being retained until the last, and skirmishers sent out from it to keep the enemy's skirmishers in check. I then crossed over the thirteenth regiment, and moved back about three fourths of a mile from the run, and formed my brigade in line of battle on a high hill on the road towards Manassas, and in full view of the enemy, who had halted on the ridges near Bristoe Station. In a short time afterwards, General Ewell, with Lawton's brigade, moved back through my line, which ran across the road, and directed me to remain in my position until orders should be sent back to me, directing me at the same time to move one or two regiments by flank, with colors elevated, so as to present the appearance of the arrival of reinforcements. This was done, and the enemy did not advance further.

Shortly after dusk, under orders from General Ewell, I moved to Manassas Junction.

Our loss was comparatively slight in this affair, and the men behaved admirably, withdrawing from under fire and moving back in excellent order. General Trimble having been detached from the division the night previous, his movements were under the immediate direction of General Jackson, and I am unable to furnish any account of them.

#### THE THREE DAYS' FIGHTING NEAR MANASSAS.

As soon as the troops of the division were supplied with provisions at Manassas, of which they stood in great need, they were moved in the direction of Centreville, towards Bull Run, and the several brigades bivouacked separately between Manassas and Bull Run.

At dawn next morning, my brigade, by direction of General Ewell, moved to the bridge at Blackburn's ford, where it crossed and proceeded up to stone bridge through the fields on the north side of Bull Run, followed by Trimble's brigade. Again crossing there, and proceeding along the Warrenton turnpike for a short distance, and then turning to the right through the fields near the old Carter house, and Matthew's house, close to which the first battle of Manassas began, my brigade was marched across the road running from the stone house, on the turnpike, to Sudley church, and formed in line in the woods north of the road. The other brigades were halted in the woods, north of that road, Lawton's and Hays' brigades having missed their way and gone in the direction of Centreville, but having turned back on the Warrenton turnpike and come up with the others.

After remaining in this position for some time, the division was ordered to move, under cover of the woods, in the direction of Gainesville, following Jackson's division, commanded by Brigadier General Taliaferro. My own brigade was the leading one of the division in this movement, and followed Jackson's division, moving through the woods until we reached the track graded for a railroad, and thence along that to the point where it leaves the woods not far from Groveton. We here turned to the right, and were formed in line on the edge of a piece of woods, with the left resting on the railroad track, and the right a short distance in rear of Starke's brigade, of Jackson's division. Hays' brigade was formed just behind my own, and Lawton's and Trimble's brigades were moved further to the right by General Ewell, who accompanied them, and directed me to take command of my own and Hays' brigade.

I saw no more of General Ewell subsequent to this, until after night, when I saw him wounded. I am unable to give the particulars of the operation of Lawton's and Trimble's brigades; but I am informed that they were placed in line by General Ewell, on the right of Starke's brigade, and when the advance was made on the enemy as he moved down the turnpike late in the afternoon, these two brigades were ordered forward by General Ewell, and participated in the attack on the enemy, constituting the left of our line of attack, and crossing the railroad and advancing to close quarters with the enemy.

These two brigades suffered very severely, Lawton's loss being quite heavy. General Ewell himself received a very serious wound in the knee while leading one of the regiments, near the close of the fight. Just before dark, I received an order from General Jackson, through one of his staff officers, to advance to the front and immediately put my brigade in motion, followed by Hay's brigade; and while advancing, I received another order to send two regiments to the right to General Jackson, and detached the forty-fourth Virginia, under Colonel Wm. Smith for that purpose. On arriving at the railroad cut, I found it so deep that I could not pass over it, and I moved by the right flank until I reached a ravine with high embankments on both sides and an interval between, through which I moved by flank, forming by file into line in front of it.

This movement brought me near the left of the position to which Trimble's brigade had advanced, and during it the brigade was exposed to a galling fire of shells and canister. By the time I had succeeded in forming my line in front of the railroad, the enemy was retiring, and it having become dark and impossible to tell whether I should encounter enemies or friends, I advanced no further, and Hays' brigade was halted on the railroad.

In this position, the two brigades lay on their arms during the night. A short distance in front of me General Ewell was lying wounded, and I had him carried to the hospital. Lawton's and Trimble's brigades lay on their arms a short distance to my right, near the points where they were at the close of the fight.

Early next morning the division, then under command of Brigadier General Lawton, was formed in line on a ridge perpendicularly to

the railroad track; with the right resting on the Warrenton turnpike and facing towards Groveton. In a short time thereafter, I received an order from General Jackson to move, with my own and Hays' brigade, to a ridge west of the turnpike and the railroad track, so as to prevent the enemy from flanking our forces on the right, a movement from the direction of Manassas indicating that purpose having been observed. In making this movement, two of my regiments, the thirteenth and thirty-first Virginia, were detached by General Jackson and placed in a piece of woods on the east of the turnpike, to observe the movements of a body of the enemy that was moving towards our right. I formed my own and Hays' brigade in line on the ridge indicated, placing them under cover in the woods, and advanced skirmishers to the railroad track, and posted a detachment on my right flank, so as to prevent any surprise from that direction. Johnson's battery was also placed in position so as to command my front. In the meantime our whole line of battle had been so modified as to place it along the railroad track, and Lawton's and Trimble's brigades were moved so as to conform to this new disposition. My own and Hays' brigades thus constituted the extreme right, being thrown back a little in rear of the direction of the main line. The thirteenth Virginia regiment, under Colonel Walker, and the thirty-first, under Colonel Hoffman, by skirmishing, kept the body of the enemy's infantry, which has been mentioned, in check until the head of General Longstreet's corps made its appearance on the Warrenton turnpike, from the direction of Gainesville. When this corps had advanced sufficiently far to render it unnecessary for me to remain longer in my position, or for the thirteenth and thirty-first regiments to remain where they were, I recalled them and moved to the left for the purpose of rejoining the rest of the division. I found General Lawton, with his brigade, in the woods, not far from the position at which I had been the evening before, but formed in line so as to be parallel to the railroad, Trimble's brigade being posted on the railroad cut, on the right of our line as thus contracted. I was ordered by General Lawton to form my brigade in line in rear of his brigade, and Colonel Forno was directed to form on my right.

Shortly after this, the enemy began his attempts to drive our troops from the line of the railroad, and about half-past three, P. M., Colonel Forno was ordered to advance to the front by General Jackson to the support of one of General A. P. Hill's brigades, and he advanced to the railroad and drove the enemy from it, and took position on it with his brigade. After this affair, Colonel Forno was wounded by one of the enemy's sharpshooters so seriously as to require his removal from the field.

Subsequent to this advance by Colonel Forno, a messenger came to me from General A. P. Hill, stating that the enemy were pressing one of his brigades on the railroad, whose ammunition was nearly exhausted, and requesting me to advance to its support. I immediately did so, and, as I passed General Lawton's brigade, I found him preparing to send forward the thirteenth Georgia regiment. I continued to advance to the front, accompanied by the eighth Lou-

isiana regiment, under Major Lewis, which had not been with its own brigade, having been sent off to replenish its ammunition the day before, and having returned just in time to join my brigade.

On reaching the railroad, I found the enemy had possession of it and a piece of woods in front, there being at this point a deep cut, which furnished a strong defence. General Gregg's and Colonel Thomas' brigades of A. P. Hill's division, having nearly exhausted their ammunition, had fallen back a short distance, but were still presenting front to the enemy. My brigade and the eighth Louisiana regiment advanced upon the enemy through a field and drove him from the woods and out of the railroad cut, crossing the latter and following in pursuit several hundred yards beyond. In this charge, which was made with great gallantry, heavy loss was inflicted on the enemy, with comparatively slight loss to my own brigade, though, among others, two valuable officers, Colonel Smith and Major Higginbotham, of the twenty-fifth Virginia regiment, were severely wounded. The thirteenth Georgia regiment also advanced to the railroad and crossed it to my right. The messenger from General Hill had stated that it was not desirable that I should go beyond the railroad, and, as soon as I could arrest the advance of my brigade, I moved it back to the railroad and occupied it. This was the last attempt made by the enemy on the afternoon of Friday, the 29th, to get possession of the line of the railroad. On the afternoon of this day, General Trimble was wounded by a shot from one of the enemy's sharpshooters, though I believe his brigade was not engaged during the day.

General Trimble's wound was a very serious one, and the command of the brigade devolved on Captain Brown, of the twelfth Georgia regiment, as the ranking officer present. During the night of the 29th, my brigade and the eighth Louisiana and thirteenth Georgia regiments lay on their arms on the part of the line they were at. Early next morning the enemy's sharpshooters commenced firing on my left flank along the railroad, killing a very valuable young officer in the thirteenth Virginia regiment, Lieutenant Wilroy, and I became then aware, for the first time that my flank was exposed, as I had been informed that one or more of General Hill's brigades were to the left of me, but, for some purpose, whatever force was there had been withdrawn, and I thus found myself in this position. I soon discovered that the enemy's skirmishers were crossing the railroad to my left, and advancing through a corn-field, and I immediately sent word to General Hill of the state of things, and, after some delay, some brigades were sent to occupy positions to my left.

During the course of the morning the skirmishers from my brigade, which were under command of Captain Lilly, of the twenty-fifth Virginia regiment, repulsed a column of the enemy which commenced to advance, and a short time afterwards an arrangement was made so as to place General Hill's troops on the left, this division in the centre, and Jackson's division on the right. In making this arrangement there was room left in the front line for only three of the regiments of my brigade, and I left the forty fourth, forty-ninth and

fifty-second in position, under Colonel Smith, of the forty-ninth, and withdrew the thirteenth, twenty-fifth, thirty-first and fifty-eighth Virginia regiments a short distance to the rear.

The position of the brigades of the division under this disposition was as follows: On the right was Trimble's brigade, under Captain Brown; on the left of Trimble's was Lawton's brigade, under Colonel Douglas, and, on his left, the three regiments of my brigade, under Colonel Smith, the whole occupying the line of the railroad; Hays' brigade had gone to the rear to get ammunition and did not return. In the afternoon, when the enemy made his determined attack on the line of the railroad, beginning on the right, Trimble's brigade, by a cross fire, aided in repulsing the column that advanced against Starke's brigade. Another column advanced in front of the three regiments of my brigade, and was repulsed by their fire and that from Lawton's brigade. The attack seemed to be general along the whole line, and the fire ran from right to left. As the enemy retired, the three regiments of my brigade dashed across the road in pursuit, very unexpectedly to me, as I had given express orders for them not to advance until ordered to do so, and I immediately moved up the regiments that were in rear, to fill up the gap that was thus left.

The other regiments were, however, soon brought back by Colonel Smith. Late in the afternoon, after General Longstreet had made his advance, and but a short time before night, General Lawton received an order to advance to the front, and Trimble's, his own and my brigades, were ordered forward, and commenced advancing. My own brigade advanced through the woods until it reached a field in front and I halted here a moment for General Lawton and the rest of the division to come up, as I was a little in advance, but General Jackson soon rode up and ordered me to move by the left flank, as it was reported that a body of the enemy was moving to our left. I immediately did so, sending in front skirmishers, under Colonel Terrell, of the thirteenth Virginia regiment, and continued to move on until I came to the railroad and then along that until I came to a field. It was then getting dark, and as soon as my skirmishers entered the field they were fired upon from a hill to my left. This was very unexpected, and I immediately sent back to General Jackson to let him know the fact, as it would have been folly for me to advance, if this fire was from the enemy, in the direction I was going. A message was soon received directing me to send and ascertain from whom the fire came, and stating that it was probably from some of General Hill's troops. It was impossible to distinguish uniforms or colors at a distance, when this firing took place, and the only chance of ascertaining from whence it came, being to send a messenger, with the certainty of his being captured if it was the enemy. A young man, from the forty-fourth Virginia regiment, who volunteered for the purpose, was sent, and he soon returned with the information that the firing was from the skirmishers from Branch's and Gregg's brigades, who mistook us for the enemy. Fortunately, however, no damage was done. I was then ordered to advance to the front, and in a few minutes afterwards, I was ordered to move

back by the right flank, the reports of the movement of the enemy around our left flank having proved unfounded. I found that the other brigades had already bivouacked near where I had left them, and my own did the same. Most of the batteries of the division were engaged at different points and times, during the fighting on these days, but as they were separated from their brigades on account of the difficulty of following them in the woods, I am unable to give a sufficiently accurate account of their operations, and shall therefore not attempt it.

#### AFFAIR AT OX HILL NEAR CHANTILLY, AND MARCH INTO MARYLAND.

On the afternoon of Sunday, the 31st, the division was ordered to move, following Jackson's division, and it did so, crossing Bull Run at a ford below Sudley, and then turning to the left and pursuing a country road until we reached the Little River turnpike, which was followed in the direction of Germantown until we were ordered to bivouack late at night.

Early, next morning, (the 1st of September,) we were again put in motion, following Jackson's division, and moving in single column, until we reached Chantilly, where the division was placed in two columns, one being on each side of the road, with the artillery in the road. In this arrangement, Trimble's and Hays' were on the right, and Lawton's and my own brigades on the left of the road, my own following Lawton's brigade.

On reaching Ox Hill, in the afternoon, where the Ox road crosses the turnpike, indications of the approach of the enemy on the turnpike from Centreville having been observed, Trimble's and Hays' brigades were moved to the right, and placed in line of battle on the right of Jackson's division, and occupying positions on the edge of a field beyond a piece of woods, through which the Ox road here runs. Lawton's brigade and my own were moved across the turnpike and placed in line in the woods in rear of Trimble's and Hays' brigades, Lawton's being placed in rear of Trimble's brigade, and my own in rear of Hays' brigade. As we moved into position, the enemy opened with artillery, firing into the woods where we were posted, and, in a short time afterwards, infantry firing commenced in front. After we had been in position for some time, General Starke, who was commanding Jackson's division, came to me and represented that the enemy were approaching on his left, in considerable force, and that there was an interval on his left, between his left flank and the turnpike, his line being in the form of an arc of a circle, and he requested me to move my brigade so as to occupy this interval, in the direction of which, he represented the enemy to be moving. I had some hesitation about moving my brigade; but as I had received no orders, and had merely followed the movement of the brigade preceding me, which brought me in the position I have indicated, and as General Starke was very urgent, representing his condition to be critical, which it in fact was, if the information he received was true, I determined to move my brigade to his left, which was but a short distance, owing to the form of the line, and gave the order accordingly to move by flank, putting myself upon the leading flank. Dur-

ing this movement I heard a very considerable musketry fire; but as the woods were very thick, and it was raining very hard at the time, I could see a very short distance, and took it for granted that the firing proceeded from the troops in front of me. On reaching the position General Starke wished me to occupy, I found that three of my regiments, the thirteenth, twenty-fifth and thirty-first Virginia regiments, had not followed the rest of the brigade, and I immediately sent my aid, Lieutenant Early, to see what was the cause of it. He found these regiments engaged with the enemy in their front, Hays' brigade, under Colonel Strong of the sixth Louisiana regiment, having fallen back in confusion, and passed through these regiments, followed by the enemy, just as my orders were being carried out. This affair could not be seen by me from the flank on which I was, and the regiments engaged in it were very properly detained by the commanding officers. I immediately marched back the rest of the brigade and found that the enemy had been successfully repulsed by my three regiments. It is due to Hays' brigade to state that the confusion into which it was thrown, was caused by an attempt of the officer in command, Colonel Strong, to change its position when the enemy were advancing, and that his want of sufficient skill in the command of a brigade, caused him to get it confused so that it could present no front, and it had, therefore to fall back. The eighth Louisiana regiment, commanded by Maj. Lewis, fell back in better order than the rest of the brigade and formed in line immediately in rear of my regiments. The rest of the brigade was soon rallied and brought back, and having been placed under my command by General Lawton, it was placed in line on the left of my brigade, General Jackson's division, under Gen. Starke, having been withdrawn a short time after the above named affair, and moved to the rear. Hays' brigade and my own thus covered the same front that had been covered by Jackson's division and that brigade, with, however, a contracted line.

About the time Hay's brigade fell back, Captain Brown, of the twelfth Georgia, commanding Trimble's brigade, was killed and one or two regiments of it were thrown into some confusion; but the brigade held its position. Lawton's brigade was not engaged, and I am unable to give the particulars of the part taken by Trimble's brigade. After the enemy had retired, Trimble's brigade having been withdrawn back to the line occupied by the division, the whole lay on their arms during the night in the wet woods without fires. The next day my brigade was advanced to the front and formed in line a quarter of a mile in front of its position of the day before—Hays being posted on the left flank, at right angles to it. The rest of the division remained in its former position, and Colonel Walker, of the thirteenth Virginia regiment, was assigned to the command of Trimble's brigade.

On the morning of the 3rd, the division, with the rest of the troops, was moved to the left, crossing the Loudon and Hampshire railroad at a station above Vienna, and then passing through Dranesville in the direction of Leesburg, and encamped on a creek not far from Dranesville. On the next day it passed through Leesburg and camped near a large spring.

On the next day, (the 5th,) it took up the line of march to White's ford on the Potomac, at which place it crossed into Maryland, camping some three or four miles from the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, and on the morning of the 6th, it marched to the railroad bridge over the Monocacy, at the junction of the railroad to Frederick city with the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, and took up a position so as to command the approaches on and adjacent to the railroad, from the direction of Washington city. In this position it remained until the morning of the 10th of September.

#### MARCH FROM FREDERICK CITY TO HARPER'S FERRY AND CAPTURE OF THAT PLACE.

On the morning of the 10th, the division, with the rest of the troops, moved from the vicinity of Frederick city westward, passing through Middletown, and bivouacked about ten miles from Frederick. On the next day we moved through Boonesborough and took the direction of Williamsport, at which point we recrossed the Potomac and proceeded to the North Mountain depot on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, near which we bivouacked. On the next day we proceeded to Martinsburg, and passed through the town in the direction of Harper's Ferry, and bivouacked on the banks of the Opequan.

On the following morning, (the 13th,) we marched towards Harper's Ferry, and proceeded to the turnpike road one mile above Halltown, where we encamped.

Late in the afternoon of the 14th, (Sunday,) we were ordered to advance towards Harper's Ferry in three columns one along the road and another on each side of it.

After passing Halltown, the division advanced to the woods on School-House hill, in line in the following order: Lawton and Trimble's brigades were formed in line of battle on the right of the turnpike, Hays' brigade on the left of it, and my own brigade in rear of Lawton's, and in this manner the whole advanced to the woods without opposition, thus getting possession of this hill, which, fronted Bolivar Heights, and was in easy range for artillery. My brigade was then moved across the road by flank and placed immediately in rear of Hays' brigade, which General Lawton put under my command. The several brigades lay on their arms in this wood during the night, it having become dark by the time they reached it. During the night, Brown's and Dement's batteries, which had been attached to my brigade at Frederick in lieu of Johnson's, which was transferred to Trimble's, were carried across the Shenandoah, under direction of Colonel Crutchfield, to some heights on the east side of the river, which commanded Harper's Ferry and Bolivar Heights, and placed in position.

The rest of the batteries belonging to the division were placed in position on the crest of School-House hill, on each side of the road. At dawn, the brigades were advanced to the front of the woods, and the batteries, including Brown's and Dement's, opened fire which was kept up until the enemy surrendered. Our artillery fire was but feebly responded to. Lawton's brigade, under the command of Colo-

nel Douglas, was moved by flank, under cover, to the bottom, on the right of the turnpike between School-House hill and Bolivar Heights, for the purpose of supporting General A. P. Hill's contemplated advance from the right; but the white flag was displayed in a short time, and no further movement was made by this brigade or the rest of the division.

#### BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

Late in the afternoon of the 15th, (the day of the surrender,) General Lawton received an order to move the division on the road to Boteler's ford below Shepherdstown, and he immediately put his own and Trimble's brigade in motion and gave me an order to follow with Hays' and my own brigades as soon as they could be supplied with rations, which had to be obtained from Harper's Ferry. This detained me until after night when I followed General Lawton, and found him in camp about four miles from the ford. The division moved at dawn next morning, crossing the Potomac at Boteler's ford and proceeding on the road to Sharpsburg, and was halted and stacked arms in a wood on the left of the road about a mile from Sharpsburg. It remained in this position for several hours, and late in the afternoon, General Lawton was ordered to move the division to the right to cover a bridge over the Antietam. This movement was commenced, but was soon countermanded and he was directed to follow Jackson's division to the left. Following this division, we moved through fields to the left of Sharpsburg until we reached the turnpike from Sharpsburg towards Hagerstown and then turned to the left on that road until we reached a wood in which there was a Dunkard church.

Jackson's division having been placed in position, General Jackson in person, directed me to place my brigade on the left of his division then commanded by Brigadier General Jones, so as to prevent its being flanked, and to communicate with General Jones. It was then getting dark, some of our troops were engaged in front, and the shells from the enemy's guns were flying tolerably thick, and it was sometime before I could ascertain where General Jones was. I found him, however, finally, not far from where I was, and having ascertained that General Starke's brigade was on his left, I moved to the left of that and placed my brigade in line along a road on which General Starke's left rested. In a short time Brigadier General Hays, who had joined his brigade the day before, reported to me, and his brigade was formed in rear of mine, it being too dark to understand enough of the position to make very good dispositions. Lawton's and Trimble's brigades were halted in the woods near the church, and between ten and eleven o'clock, at night, were ordered to relieve some brigades of General Hood's division which had been engaged during the evening. These two brigades were posted in the positions occupied by General Hood's brigade, Trimble's brigade, under Colonel Walker, being on the right, next to General D. H. Hill's division and Lawton's brigade on the left of it. In this position they lay on their arms during the night with occasional skirmishing in front between the pickets.

Shortly after dawn, next morning, Hays' brigade was ordered, by General Lawton, to move to the position at which his own and Trimble's brigades were in line, and was posted in the open field in rear of Lawton's brigade. At the same time Hays was ordered to make his movement. General Jackson, in person, ordered me to move my brigade to the left, along a route which he pointed out, to support some pieces of artillery which Major General Stuart had in position to the left of our line. I immediately commenced this movement, and was thus separated from the rest of the division, and cannot, therefore, speak of its subsequent operations from my own observation, but gather the following facts from the reports of brigade commanders:

At light, skirmishing commenced in front of Lawton's and Trimble's brigades, in a piece of woods occupied by the enemy, and in a very short time the enemy's batteries, which were posted on the opposite side of Antietam river, so as to enfilade the line of these two brigades, opened a destructive fire. About sunrise, the enemy advanced in line, driving in our skirmishers, and advancing to the edge of the woods. About this time, batteries opened in front from the woods with shell and canister, and these brigades were thus exposed to a terrible carnage. After a short time, General Hays advanced, with his brigade, to the support of Colonel Douglas, under a terrific fire, and passed to the front. About this time, General Lawton, who had been superintending the operation, received a very severe wound, and was borne from the field. Colonel Walker, by moving two of his regiments, the twenty-first Georgia and twenty-first North Carolina, and concentrating their fire, and that of the twelfth Georgia, upon a part of the enemy's line in front of the latter, succeeded in breaking it, and as a brigade of fresh troops came up to the support of Lawton's and Hays' brigades just at this time, Walker ordered an advance, but the brigade which came up having fallen back, he was compelled to halt, and finally to fall back to his first position. His brigade (Trimble's) had suffered terribly, his own horse was killed under him, and he had himself been struck by a piece of shell. Colonel Douglas, whose brigade had been hotly engaged during the whole time, was killed, and about half the men had been killed and wounded. Hays' brigade, which had advanced to Colonel Douglas' support, had also suffered terribly, having more than half killed and wounded, (both of General Hays' staff officers being disabled,) and, General Hood having come up to their relief, these three brigades which were reduced to mere fragments, their ammunition being exhausted, retired to the rear.

The terrible nature of the conflict in which these brigades had been engaged, and the steadiness with which they maintained their position, is shown by the losses they sustained. They did not retire from the field until General Lawton had been wounded and borne from the field; Colonel Douglas, commanding Lawton's brigade, had been killed, and the brigade had sustained a loss of five hundred and fifty-four killed and wounded out of eleven hundred and fifty, losing five regimental commanders, out of six. Hays' brigade had sustained a loss of three hundred and twenty-three.

out of five hundred and fifty, including every regimental commander and all of his staff; and Colonel Walker and one of his staff had been disabled, and the brigade he was commanding had sustained a loss of two hundred and twenty-eight out of less than seven hundred present, including three out of four regimental commanders. I am sorry that I am not able to do justice to the individual cases of gallantry displayed in this terrible conflict, and must content myself with calling attention to the reports of General Hays and Colonel Walker, brigade commanders, and of Major Lowe who succeeded to the command of Lawton's brigade after the death of Colonel Douglas, and the disabling of all the other ranking officers. In the death of Colonel Douglas, the country sustained a serious loss. He was talented, courageous, and devoted to his duty.

After receiving the order from General Jackson to go to the support of General Stuart, as before stated, I proceeded to do so, moving my brigade through a piece of wood a little back from the left of our line, and then through some fields; but, as I was passing through these fields I discovered some of the enemy's skirmishers moving around our left, and I sent some from my own brigade to hold them in check until I had passed. I found General Stuart about a mile from the position I had moved from, with several pieces of artillery in position on a hill, and engaged with some of the enemy's guns. At his suggestion, I formed my line in rear of this hill and remained here for about an hour, when General Stuart having discovered a body of the enemy's troops making their way gradually between us and the left of our main line, determined to shift his position to an eminence nearer our line and a little to the rear. He gave the instructions accordingly, and I moved back, taking a route in rear of the one by which I had moved out, and, by General Stuart's direction, my brigade was moved into the skirt of woods through which I had marched in going out. Just as I was getting into line Gen. Stuart informed me that Gen. Lawton had been wounded, and that Gen. Jackson had sent for me to carry my brigade back and take command of the division.

Leaving the thirteenth Virginia regiment, numbering less than one hundred men, with General Stuart, at his request, I then moved to the rear of this wood around a corn-field, as the enemy had got into the woods to my right, and as I came near the position at which my brigade had been posted the night before, I found Colonel Grigsby and Colonel Stafford, of Jackson's division, rallying some two or three hundred men of that division at the point at which Starke's brigade had been in position the night before. A body of the enemy, perhaps only skirmishers, had got into the woods to the left, and was firing upon our men, being held in check by a scattering fire. This was the same body of woods at which the Dunkard Church, before mentioned, is located. This wood runs along the Hagerstown road for several hundred yards entirely on the left hand side as you proceed from Sharpsburg; then there is a field, the edge of which runs at right angles to the road for about two hundred yards, making thus an elbow in the woods and then turns to the right and runs along the woods parallel to the Hagerstown road for a quarter of a mile, and the woods

again turns square to the left and extends back about half a mile, making at this point again an elbow with the strip of woods running along the road from the church. The church itself is at the end next to Sharpsburg and near the road. The wood is about four hundred yards through where it runs along the road, and back of it is a plantation road running by a house and a barn and through the long elbow in the woods on the left. The field between the woods and the Hagerstown road forms a plateau nearly level and in higher ground than the woods which slopes down abruptly from the edge of the plateau. This wood is full of ledges of limestone and small ridges affording excellent cover for troops. A portion of the enemy, as before stated, had got into the further end of this wood, where the field is between it and the road, and as I came up, Colonels Grigsby and Stafford commenced to advance upon this body, and I immediately formed my brigade in line and advanced along in their rear, the enemy giving way as the advance was made. I halted my brigade on a ridge in this wood and Colonels Grigsby and Stafford, at my suggestion, formed their men on my left. My line when thus formed was perpendicular to the Hagerstown road, and the right rested near the edge of the plateau above-mentioned, but was concealed and protected by the rise in the ground. A considerable body of the enemy's troops was seen in the fields in my front, as thus presented, which was evidently endeavoring to make a movement on our flank and rear. I directed Colonel Smith, of the forty-ninth Virginia regiment, to take command of the brigade and to resist the enemy at all hazards, and then rode in the direction of the position at which the rest of the brigade had been engaged for the purpose of taking command of them and ascertaining their condition. I ascertained that these brigades had fallen back some distance to the rear for the purpose of reorganizing, and that they were probably not in a condition to go into the fight again. I despatched Major J. P. Wilson, a volunteer aid, who had been with General Lawton, to find out where the brigades were and to order them up. While looking for these brigades, I observed that our troops who were engaged on this part of the line were giving way before the enemy, and as soon as I had despatched Major Wilson, I rode to find General Jackson and having done so, informed him of the condition of the division and also that our troops were giving way and that the enemy was advancing on the flank on which I had formed my brigade. He said that he would send for reinforcements and directed me to keep the enemy in check until they arrived. I then returned to my brigade and resumed command of it. I soon found that the enemy was moving up in considerable force towards the woods in which I was, and sent Major Hale, my A. A. A. General, to let General Jackson know that the danger was imminent and he soon returned with the assurance that the reinforcements should be sent immediately. Just as Major Hale returned, a battery opened at the corner of the woods on the Hagerstown road, where the field spoken of joins the woods. This was not more than two hundred yards from my right flank and was somewhat in rear of it. When this battery opened I took it for granted that it was one of ours, but

Major Hale's attention was called to it by a soldier who happened to be standing upon the edge of the plateau and discovered that it was one of the enemy's batteries. I was immediately informed of the fact by Major Hale, but I doubted it until I rode to the edge of the woods, and saw, beyond all dispute, that it was the enemy's battery and was firing in the direction of the road towards Sharpsburg, and that it was supported by a very heavy column of infantry, which was also within two hundred yards of my right flank. This made me aware of the fact that our troops, which I had seen giving way, had fallen back, leaving the enemy entire possession of the field in front. It must be borne in mind that the direction of my line was perpendicular to the Hagerstown road, so that had the enemy seen it his battery could have raked my flank and rear. Fortunately, my troops were concealed from his view. My condition, however, was exceedingly critical, as another column was advancing in my front and had reached the woods in which I was. I saw the vast importance of maintaining my ground, for had the enemy got possession of this woods, the heights immediately in rear, which commanded the rear of our whole line, would have fallen into his hands. I determined to wait for the reinforcements promised by General Jackson, hoping that they would arrive in time to meet the column on my right. I, however, threw my right flank back quietly under cover of the woods so as not to have my rear exposed in the event of being discovered. I kept an anxious eye on the column on my right, as well as on the one moving up in my front, and very soon I saw the column on my right move into the woods in the direction of the church. I looked to the rear for the reinforcements and could not see them coming. I was thus cut off from the main body of our army on the right and a column was moving against me from the left. There was no time to be lost and I immediately ordered my brigade to move by the right flank parallel to the enemy and directed Colonel Grigsby, who commanded the body of troops he and Colonel Stafford had rallied, to move his command back in line so as to present front to the enemy, who were coming up on the flank. I moved back along the rear of the woods, until I caught up with the enemy who had the start of me. I was, however, concealed from his view and it was evident that my presence where I was was not suspected. Passing from behind a ridge that concealed my brigade from the enemy, we came in full view of his flankers, which, however, were made aware of my presence by a fire which I directed the leading regiment to pour into them. They immediately ran into the main body, which halted, and I continued to move by the flank until my whole force was disclosed. Just at this time I observed the promised reinforcements coming up toward the woods at the further end. I ordered the brigade to face to the front and open fire, which was done in handsome style and responded to by the enemy. I did not intend to advance to the front, as I observed some of the troops which had come up to reinforce me preparing to advance into the woods from the direction of my right flank and was afraid of exposing my brigade to their fire, and that the two movements would throw us into confusion as they would have been at right

angles; moreover, the other column was advancing on my flank, held in check, however, by Colonels Grigsby and Stafford, with their men, and by the thirty-first Virginia regiment, which was on my left. The enemy in front, however, commenced giving way, and the brigade, which I have always found difficult to restrain, commenced pursuing, driving the enemy in front entirely out of the woods. Notwithstanding my efforts to stop the men, they advanced until my left flank and rear became exposed to a fire from the column on the left, which had advanced past my former position. I also discovered another body of the enemy moving across the plateau on my left flank in double-quick time to the same position, and I succeeded in arresting my command and ordered it to retire so that I might change front and advance upon this force. Just as I reformed my line, Semmes', Anderson's, and a part of Barksdale's brigades, of McLaws' division, came up and the whole, including Grigsby's command, advanced upon this body of the enemy, driving it with great slaughter entirely from and beyond the woods and leaving us in possession of my former position. As soon as this was accomplished, I caused the regiments of the brigade to be reformed and placed in position as before. I take great pleasure in bearing testimony to the gallant conduct of Semmes', Anderson's, and Barksdale's commands, whose timely arrival was of so much service to me.

I can also bear testimony to the gallant deportment of Colonels Grigsby and Stafford, and the men under their command. Major General Stuart, with the pieces of artillery under his charge, contributed largely to the repulse of the enemy, and pursued them for some distance with his artillery and the thirteenth Virginia regiment, under the command of Captain Winston. The conduct of my own brigade was all that I could have desired, and I feel that it would be invidious to mention individual acts of courage where all behaved so well. My acting assistant adjutant general, Major Hale, and my aid, Lieutenant Early, were very active in bearing my orders under fire and were of great service to me. The loss in my brigade, in this affair and under the shelling to which it was exposed while supporting General Stuart early in the morning, was eighteen killed and one hundred and sixty-six wounded. Colonel William Smith, of the forty-ninth Virginia, and Lieutenant Colonel Gibson, of the same regiment, were both seriously wounded, the former receiving three wounds, but remaining on the field in command of his regiment until after the close of the fight.

Shortly after the repulse of the enemy, Colonel Hodges, in command of Armistead's brigade, reported to me, and I placed it in line in the position occupied by my brigade, and placed the latter in line on the edge of the plateau which has been mentioned and parallel to the Hagerstown road, but under cover. Immediately after his repulse the enemy commenced shelling the woods where we were, and kept it up for some time, doing however, no damage. Major General McLaws brought up two brigades some time afterwards, placing one (Kershaw's) on the left of Armistead's, on the same line, and the other (Barksdale's) on my right. In this position we remained

during the rest of the day, the ensuing night, and all day Thursday, the 18th. The enemy made do further attack, but there were several demonstrations, as if another advance was intended, and there were at least three lines of battle formed on the opposite side of the Hagerstown road, near the woods, with a heavy line of skirmishers extending nearly up to the road. I deem it proper to state that all the killed and wounded of my own brigade were inside of my lines, as I established them after the fight, and that the killed and wounded of the enemy on this part of the field were also within the same lines. All my killed were buried, and all my wounded were carried to the hospital in the rear, though, by some mismanagement on the part of the surgeons or quartermasters, of which I was not aware until too late, some ten or fifteen of my wounded were left in a hospital on the Maryland side of the river when we recrossed. Late in the afternoon of the 17th, I went to the rear to look after the other brigades of the division, and found Major Lowe, with about one hundred men of Lawton's brigade, which he had collected together, and which I had moved up to where my brigade was and posted on the right of it. Early next morning General Hays, with about ninety men of his brigade, reported to me and was placed on my left, in the same line; and, during the morning, Captain Feagins, with about two hundred men of Trimble's brigade, reported to me, and was posted in my rear. Only Johnson's and D'Aquin's batteries accompanied the division across the Potomac, the former being attached to Trimble's brigade and the latter to Hays' brigade. They were both engaged on the 17th and suffered to some extent; but I am unable to give an account of their operations, as Johnson's battery was soon after detached from the division and has since been amalgamated with another battery in some other command, and Captain D'Aquin was killed at Fredericksburg.

The other batteries, which had been detained at Harper's Ferry, were brought over the river on the 18th by my orders.

#### RECROSSING THE POTOMAC, AFFAIRS AT BOTELER'S FORD AND SHEPHERDSTOWN, AND MARCH TO BUNKER HILL.

Having received the order from General Jackson after night on the 18th, to move back as soon as my pickets were relieved by General Fitzhugh Lee's cavalry, which was between ten and eleven o'clock, I moved the division back, carrying along Armistead's brigade, and I believe this was the last division to move. It recrossed the Potomac at Boteler's ford shortly after sunrise on the morning of the 19th, and was formed in line of battle on the heights on the Virginia side, under the direction of General Longstreet. After remaining in position for two or three hours, the enemy having in the meantime opened an artillery fire from the opposite side of the Potomac, I was ordered to move towards Martinsburg and to leave Lawton's brigade then increased to about four hundred men and under command of Colonel Lamar, of the sixty-first Georgia regiment, in position on the height just below Boteler's ford. I accordingly moved in the direction indi-

cated, until I was ordered to encamp for the night, near a school house, five or six miles from Shepherdstown. On the afternoon of the 19th the enemy commenced crossing a small force at Boteler's ford, and Lawton's brigade gave way, abandoning its position. This brigade was very much reduced, having suffered terribly on the 17th, and a considerable number of the men, being just returned from the hospitals, were without arms, and, without knowing the particulars of the affair, I am satisfied its conduct on this occasion was owing to the mismanagement of the officer in command of it.

Next morning I was ordered to move back to the vicinity of Boteler's ford, with the three brigades which were with me. On arriving there, by orders from General Jackson, these brigades were placed in line of battle in rear of General A. P. Hill's division, in the woods, on the right and left of the road leading to the ford; my own and Hays' brigades being placed on the right and Trimble's brigade on the left. In this position they remained until late in the afternoon, while General Hill's division was engaged in front, being in range of the enemy's shells, by one of which Captain Feagin, in command of the fifteenth Alabama regiment, was seriously wounded, he being the only regimental commander of that brigade who had not been killed or wounded at Sharpsburg.

Late in the afternoon, I was ordered to move back, and on the way received orders to continue to move on, following Jackson's division, which preceded me, and did so until I was halted, about twelve o'clock at night, near the Opequon. We remained at this position until the 24th, and then moved across the Opequon and camped on the Williamsport turnpike, six or seven miles from Martinsburg. On the next day my camp was moved to a place near the Tuscarora, about three miles from Martinsburg, and on the 27th we moved to Bunker Hill.

This embraces the whole of the operations of this division during the period designated in the order of the Lieutenant General commanding this corps, as far as I am able to give them, and I am sorry that I am not able to do more justice to Lawton's, Trimble's and Hays' brigades in this report, but my difficulties in making it have already been explained, and it is owing to them, and not to any design on my part, that the report as to these brigades is not so complete as it is in regard to my own.

I submit herewith lists of killed, wounded and missing, from which it will appear that, in the period embraced, this division has lost in killed, five hundred and sixty-five; in wounded, two thousand two hundred and eighty-four, and missing, seventy; making an aggregate of two thousand nine hundred and nineteen, showing the severity of the conflicts in which it has been engaged. Its loss at Sharpsburg alone was one hundred and ninety-nine killed, one thousand one hundred and fifteen wounded, and thirty-eight missing, being an aggregate loss of one thousand three hundred and fifty-two out of less than three thousand five hundred, with which it went into that action.

I hope I may be excused for referring to the record shown by my

own brigade, which has never been broken or compelled to fall back, or left one of its dead to be buried by the enemy, but has invariably driven the enemy when opposed to him, and slept upon the ground on which it has fought in every action, with the solitary exception of the affair at Bristoe Station, when it retired under orders, covering the withdrawal of the other troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. EARLY,  
*Brigadier General, commanding Division.*

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL W. B. TALIAFERRO,  
COMMANDING DIVISION.

RICHMOND, September 16, 1862.

To Major E. F. PAXTON,

*A. A. A. General:*

MAJOR: For the information of the Major General commanding, I have the honor to report the operations of the first division (Jackson's) from the time the army moved from Crenshaw's farm, near Orange Court-House, to the 29th ultimo, when, by the advice of the surgeon, I left the army for this place.

On the morning of the 20th, I left Crenshaw's farm following the division of Major General Ewell, which marched in rear of that of Major General A. P. Hill, and, after crossing the Rappidan river at Somerville ford, bivouacked at Stevensburg, in Culpeper county, for the night.

Next morning I was ordered to move the division to the front, and, after passing the divisions of General Jackson's corps, near Brandy Station, on the Orange and Alexandria railroad, I was pushed forward towards Cunningham's ford, on the Rappahannock.

ACTION AT CUNNINGHAM'S FORD, AUGUST 21ST.

On approaching this ford, I discovered the enemy on the opposite bank, (in what force I could not tell,) their infantry holding the edge of a corn-field and a skirt of woods which approached the river bank, and the brows of the hills overlooking the ford, I could not discover their batteries; but supposed they would soon be exhibited. I halted the troops under cover of the woods, and ordered to the front, under charge of Major L. Shumaker, my chief of artillery, the long-range guns of Brockenbrough's, Wooding's, Poague's and Carpenter's batteries.

These pieces having been placed in position soon developed the position of the enemy's batteries, and, after a short resistance, silenced their guns, blowing up one of their caissons and dispersing, in confusion, their infantry.

By direction of the Major General, the infantry was kept back, while a cavalry force was pushed over the ford to reconnoitre.

This force, under Major General Stuart, (reinforced by a section of Brockenbrough's and Wooding's batteries,) remained over the river some two hours, capturing a number of prisoners and many arms, which had been abandoned in their haste to escape the severity of our shelling.

Sometime after, the enemy was discovered moving large masses up the river from below us. Here, the cavalry having retired, his batteries were again placed in position near the ford, and a large party

of skirmishers thrown out to the river bank above and below the ford. I at once detailed a sufficient force of sharpshooters from the third brigade to hold the river bank, between whom and the enemy an animated skirmish was kept up during the rest of the day.

Towards night the enemy reinforced his skirmishers with a brigade of infantry, when I directed Major Shumaker to open upon them with his pieces, which, although it drew upon our artillerists a heavy fire, which was continued as long as it was light enough to distinguish objects, had the effect of driving them back in confusion. Our batteries then replied to those of the enemy with deliberation and vigor until dark. On the following morning, I was directed to hold the ford until the other division of General Jackson's corps had passed to my left in the direction of Farley ford, on the Hazel river, and then to follow with my division.

I had again, on the morning of the 22nd, a warm artillery fight with the enemy, resulting, as on the day previous, according to his published reports, in very considerable slaughter to the enemy. Our loss was twenty privates killed and wounded and no officers.

After the other divisions had made way for me, I moved to Farley ford. On reaching which point, I was ordered by General Lee to remain until morning, for the purpose of uniting with General Hood in repressing any demonstration of the enemy at Freeman's ford, on the Rappahannock.

Generals Hood and Trimble were engaged with the enemy, who had crossed the Rappahannock, at the time that I approached the Hazel; but had driven them back across the river before I came up with them. We were only subjected to a few shells of the enemy, which did us no harm.

On the 23rd, we marched to Scott's farm, near the White Sulphur Springs, and on the 24th, within one mile of Jeffersonton; each day being subjected to some little shelling.

On the 25th, we marched this division in rear, from Jeffersonton across the Rappahannock at the ford next above Waterloo, and bivouacked near Salem. On the 26th, marched within a mile of Bristoe Station, on the Orange and Alexandria railroad, passing through Thoroughfare Gap, each of these days without meeting the enemy, who was ignorant of our movements.

#### SKIRMISH NEAR MANASSAS JUNCTION.

On the morning of the 29th, I was ordered to send, before day-break, a brigade across Muddy Run by the county road to Manassas Junction. I accordingly sent forward on this service, the first brigade, Colonel Baylor, and followed with the rest of the division, as soon as General Hill's division permitted me to move.

Colonel Baylor encountered a force of the enemy's cavalry, about a mile from the Junction, but soon dispersed them, Poague's battery of this brigade, doing good practice. Baylor then pushed beyond the Junction and aided in the rout of the enemy towards Centreville, and afterwards returned to Manassas Junction.

By the direction of the Major General commanding, I assumed command at the Junction, threw out the necessary pickets, made preparations for transporting such of the stores which had been captured by General Trimble on the preceeding evening, as the captured wagons and our limited transportation would admit of, distributing to our troops as much of the subsistence stores as they could eat and transport in their haversacks, and made preparations for the firing of the immense accumulation of commissary, quartermaster and ordnance stores, which were contained in the buildings and cars, of which latter there were over one hundred, all new and in the best order.

At night, Major General Ewell, who had been fighting during the evening at Bristoe Station, having crossed Muddy run; by direction of Major General Jackson, I moved my division, with the entire train, across the Warrenton and Alexandria turnpike, pursuing the Old Military road to Sudley mills, and at daylight halted on the battle field of the 21st of July, 1861.

The second brigade, under the command of Colonel Bradley Johnson, was thrown forward to Groveton; the third brigade, Colonel Taliaferro, to Sudley Mills, and the first and fourth held about half a mile beyond the intersection of the turnpike with the Aldie road.

#### BATTLE OF MANASSAS, AUGUST 28TH.

- On the morning of the 28th, the enemy made demonstrations upon the road leading from Warrenton, which were checked by the second brigade, and it was ascertained he was advancing his columns by the railroad on one side, and the Warrenton turnpike on the other; that his intention was to rest the right of his left advance on the turnpike, and the right on the road to Sudley, and to attempt to cross Bull Run at the stone bridge and Sudley ford.

I received orders about twelve o'clock M., from the Major General commanding, to move forward through the woods to attack his left, which was advancing from the direction of Gainesville towards Sudley. I accordingly pushed the first, third, and fourth brigades in that direction, being followed by Major General Ewell.

After marching some two and a half miles in the direction of Gainesville, and coming to the open field, to the right of Groveton, I discovered that the enemy had abandoned his intention of attempting to cross at Sudley, and was moving off to the right of the Warrenton turnpike; that the troops he had thrown forward had been recalled, and that the whole force which had crossed the turnpike were falling back and recrossing. At the same time, I received orders to halt my command. The enemy, in great force, could now be discovered leaving the turnpike to their left, and, apparently making for the railroad about Manassas Junction. Our troops were immediately thrown forward in the direction of the turnpike, and lines of battle formed parallel to the road. In a short time their skirmishers advanced, and were almost immediately supported by an immense force which crossed the turnpike and advanced upon our lines.

The first brigade was at this time on the right, the fourth next, the

second some distance on the left, having been withdrawn from Groveton. As soon as the third brigade could get up, which was after the action commenced, it was moved first to the support of the batteries on the right, and then to the right of the first brigade.

The batteries of Captains Wooding, Poague and Carpenter were placed in position in front of the first brigade, and just above the village of Groveton, and firing over the heads of the skirmishers, poured a most destructive fire of shot and shell upon the enemy. This was responded to by a most severe fire, and a new position selected to the right of the first brigade, which enfiladed the enemy's guns, and ultimately drove them from the field. The troops moved forward with splendid gallantry, and in most perfect order.

Twice our lines were advanced, until we had reached a farm-house and orchard on the right of our line, and were within about eighty yards of a greatly superior force of the enemy. Here, one of the most terrific conflicts that can be conceived occurred. Our troops held the farm-house and one edge of the orchard, while the enemy held the orchard and enclosure next to the turnpike. To our left there was no cover, and our men stood in an open field, without shelter of any kind. The enemy, although reinforced, never once attempted to advance upon our position, but withheld, with great determination, the terrible fire which our lines poured upon them. For two hours and a half without an instant's cessation of the most deadly discharges of musketry, round shot and shell, both lines stood unmoved, neither advancing, and neither broken or yielding, until at last about nine o'clock at night, the enemy slowly and sullenly fell back and yielded the field to our victorious troops.

The loss on both sides was very heavy; but the proportion of killed and wounded of our men was, as far as I could judge upon the field, small, and the wounds generally slight. The commanding General has been, I presume, furnished with an official report of the killed and wounded.

The gallantry and heroism displayed by our troops is beyond all praise. The first brigade was more exposed than any other, and more than sustained the reputation, which, under the leadership of the Major General commanding, on the same field over twelve months ago, it achieved, and which has distinguished its veteran troops in many of the hardest fought battles of the war.

Colonel Baylor, fifth Virginia, who commanded it, was worthy his heroic command. No more exalted recognition of his worth and services can be uttered, and no higher tribute can be paid him, than to declare that he was worthy the command of the Stonewall brigade in the action of the 28th ultimo.

Colonel Neff, thirty-third Virginia, while gallantly leading his regiment into action, was killed. Colonel Grigsby, twenty-seventh, wounded; Colonel Botts, second Virginia, mortally wounded; Major Nadenbousch, second Virginia, Major Terry, fourth, wounded, and others, whose names and whose gallantry have been, doubtless, reported to the commanding General.

The second brigade, Colonel Bradley Johnston, which had been

subjected to severe picket duty the night previous, and on the morning of this day, and behaved with gallantry in the skirmishes of the morning, was not brought into action.

The third brigade, commanded by Colonel A. G. Taliaferro, twenty-third Virginia regiment, advanced splendidly under fire of the enemy, occupied the farm-house and orchard, on the right of our lines, held these against every effort of the enemy to dislodge them, and ultimately drove the enemy from the orchard and the field beyond the turnpike. It is unnecessary to report that the gallantry of Colonel Taliaferro was conspicuous, and the conduct of his officers admirable. Lieutenant Colonel Walker, Major Stover, tenth Virginia, and Major Scott, twenty-third Virginia, were wounded whilst ably discharging their duties. I have no official information of the other casualties.

The fourth brigade operated on the extreme left of the division. It was not in my power to be much with this brigade after the action had progressed far, but its gallantry was conspicuous, and the ability of its commander, Brigadier General W. E. Starke, was a guarantee that it did all that the gallant Louisianians who composed it were required to perform. I was witness of their unflinching bravery and heroic conduct under a heavy fire during the early part of the engagement. I am ignorant of the casualties of the brigade.

The reports of the brigade, regimental and battery commanders have, I suppose, been forwarded to you. After the action had been terminated, I, because of the condition of my wounds, turned over the command of the division to Brigadier General Starke. In conclusion, I beg to recognize the gallantry of my personal staff, and the obligations I am under to them. I beg to mention Major W. A. Taliaferro, A. A. G.; Lieutenant R. K. Meade and Lieutenant P. A. Taliaferro, aids-de-camp, and to testify my regard for the gallantry and good conduct of my orderly, private Depriest, who was severely wounded, and of privates Dowman, Bowen and Tyree, couriers.

I have the honor to be very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO,

*Brigadier General, commanding Division, A. V.*

# REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL WALKER, COMMANDING DIVISION, OF OPERATIONS AT HARPER'S FERRY:

HEADQUARTERS WALKER'S DIVISION,  
Camp near Winchester, Va., October 7, 1862. }

Major E. F. PAXTON,

*Assistant Adjutant and Insp'r General, Jackson's Corps, A. N. V.*

SIR : I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of this division under my command in the reduction of Harper's Ferry :

On the 9th of September, I was instructed by General Lee to proceed from the Monocacy Junction near Frederick, Maryland, to the mouth of the Monocacy, and destroy the aqueduct of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal. We arrived at the aqueduct about eleven o'clock, P. M., and found it occupied by the enemy's pickets, whose fire, as they fled, severely wounded Captain Duffy, of the twenty-fourth North Carolina troops, cf Brigadier General Ransom's brigade. Working parties were at once detailed and set to work to drill holes for blowing up the arches ; but after several hours of labor, it was apparent that, owing to the insufficiency of our tools and the extraordinary solidity and massiveness of the masonry, the work we had undertaken was one of days instead of hours. The movement of our main army from Frederick towards Hagerstown, which I had been officially informed would take place on the 10th, would leave my small division in the immediate presence of a very strong force of the enemy, and, while it would be engaged in destroying the aqueduct, in a most exposed and dangerous position. I therefore determined to rejoin General Lee by way of Jefferson and Middletown as previously instructed by him.

Before marching, however, I received instructions to cross the Potomac at Cheeks ford and proceed towards Harper's Ferry and co-operate with Major Generals Jackson and McLaws in the capture of the Federal force at that point.

Early on the morning of the 10th, the aqueduct over the Monocacy was occupied by a large force of the enemy, with their artillery commanding the aqueduct and its approaches, as well as Cheek's ford. I then determined to cross at the Point of Rocks, which I effected during the night of the 10th and by daylight on the 11th ; but with much difficulty, owing to the destruction of the bridge over the canal and the steepness of the banks of the Potomac.

My men being much worn down by two days and nights marching, almost without sleep or rest, we remained in camp during the 11th, and proceeded the next day towards Harper's Ferry, encamping at Hillsboro'. On the morning of the 13th, we reached the foot of the Blue Ridge, opposite the Loudon Heights, which I was instructed to occupy. From such reconnaissance as could be made from below, it seemed certain that Loudon Heights were unoccupied by the enemy.

To ascertain if such was the case, I detached Colonel John R. Cooke with his regiment, (the twenty-seventh North Carolina,) and the thirtieth Virginia Volunteers, who took possession of the Heights without opposition and held them during the night.

In the meantime, the enemy was being attacked on the Maryland Heights by the forces under Major General McLaws, and in the afternoon it became apparent that our forces had possession of the summit, which commands Harper's Ferry as well as Loudon Heights.

That night and the next, the entire division, except that portion of it occupying Loudon Heights, were placed in a strong position to prevent the escape of the enemy down the right bank of the Potomac. At daylight on the 14th, I sent Captain French, with two Parrott guns and two rifle pieces of Branch's Battery, under Lieutenant Martin, to Loudon Heights, where I immediately proceeded and placed them in position. I informed Major General Jackson of this by signal, and awaited his instructions. In the meantime, we had attracted the notice of the enemy, who opened their batteries upon us, and it became necessary either to reply or withdraw our pieces. About one o'clock, P. M., I therefore gave orders to open fire upon the enemy's batteries and the troops upon Bolivar Heights, beyond Harper's Ferry. Our guns were served admirably and with great rapidity, and in two hours we had silenced an eight-gun battery near the Barbour house, except one gun, which was so close under the mountain that we could not see it. What other effect our fire had we could not tell; but it evidently produced great consternation and commotion amongst the enemy's troops, especially the cavalry.

During the engagement, one of the enemy's caissons was blown up by a well directed shot from French's battery. On our side we lost Lieutenant Robertson, of French's battery, killed; Major Wyatt, forty-eighth North Carolina troops, and two privates of French's battery wounded. Our guns and horses sustained no injury.

Owing to a heavy mist, which concealed Harper's Ferry from view, we did not open our fire until after eight o'clock, in the morning of the 15th, the enemy replying very feebly at first, and finally about nine o'clock, ceased firing altogether. About half past nine o'clock, we observed a white flag displayed from a large brick building in the upper town, when our batteries immediately ceased their fire, although I was not satisfied that it indicated a capitulation.

It soon became apparent that such was the case, and after a short time we had the extreme satisfaction to see the head of Major General A. P. Hill's column approaching the town, along the Charlestown turnpike.

My division, that evening, crossed the Blue Ridge and the Shenandoah river, and by daylight, on the 16th, reached Shepherdstown, and, early in the day, crossed the Potomac and reported to General Lee, near Sharpsburg, Maryland.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. WALKER,  
Brigadier General commanding Division.

# REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL WALKER OF BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

HEADQUARTERS WALKER'S DIVISION, }  
Camp near Winchester, Va., October 14, 1862. }

Major G. M. SORREL, A. A. G.,  
Right Wing, Army Northern Virginia:

MAJOR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part borne by the division under my command in the battle of Sharpsburg, Maryland, on the 17th of September last:

The division, composed of Ransom's and Walker's brigades, the latter commanded by Colonel Van H. Manning, to which was attached French's and Branch's light batteries, after participating in the capture of the Federal forces at Harper's Ferry, crossed the Blue Ridge, the Shenandoah and the Potomac, the latter at Shepherdstown, and reached the neighborhood of Sharpsburg, Maryland, on the 16th ultimo, where I reported to General Lee.

In accordance with his instructions, at daylight the next morning I placed the division on the extreme right of our position, and about a mile and a half south of Sharpsburg, my line of battle extending from a wood on the right to a group of barns, stables and out-houses on the left, in such way as to cover the ford over the Antietam creek, and to be within supporting distance of the command of Brigadier General Toombs, which lay in front of the bridge across the same stream. My batteries were placed on commanding heights in such way as to command the roads leading from the east, while a battalion of sharpshooters was posted along the wooded banks of the Antietam to hold the enemy in check, should he attempt to cross the stream at that point. While we were in this position the enemy made no attempt to cross the stream, and the only evidence of his being in our front was his artillery fire at long range and the reply of General Toombs' batteries, about a half mile to my left.

Soon after nine o'clock, A. M., I received orders from General Lee, through Colonel Long, of his staff, to hasten to the extreme left to the support of Major General Jackson. Hastening forward as rapidly as possible along the rear of our entire line of battle, we arrived, soon after ten o'clock, near the woods which the commands of Generals Hood and Early were struggling heroically to hold, but gradually and sullenly yielding to the irresistible weight of overwhelming numbers. Here we at once formed line of battle, under a sharp artillery fire, and, leaving the twenty-seventh North Carolina and third Arkansas regiments to hold the open space between the woods and Longstreet's left, the division, with Ransom's brigade on the left, advanced in splendid style firing and cheering as they went, and in a few minutes cleared the woods, strewing it with the enemy's dead and wounded.

Colonel Manning, with the forty-sixth and forty-eighth North

Carolina and thirtieth Virginia, not content with the possession of the woods, dashed forward in gallant style, crossed the open fields beyond, driving the enemy before him like sheep, until arriving at a long line of strong post and rail fence, behind which heavy masses of the enemy's infantry were lying, their advance was checked, and, it being impossible to climb over these fences under such a fire, these regiments, after suffering a heavy loss, were compelled to fall back to the woods, where the forty-sixth and forty-eighth North Carolina regiments were quickly reformed; but the thirtieth Virginia, owing to some unaccountable misunderstanding of orders, except Captain Hudgins' company, went entirely off the field, and, as a regiment, was not again engaged during the day. Captain Smith, of my staff, and myself succeeded in gathering up portions of it, which, acting with the forty-sixth North Carolina, afterwards did good service.

Just before the falling back of these regiments, the gallant Colonel Manning was severely wounded and was compelled to leave the field, relinquishing the command of the brigade to the next in rank, Colonel E. D. Hall, of the forty-sixth North Carolina regiment. The forty-eighth North Carolina regiment, Colonel R. C. Hill commanding, after reforming, was sent by me, with French's and Branch's light batteries, to reinforce General Stuart on the extreme left, who was specially charged by General Jackson with the task of turning the enemy's right.

The falling back of a portion of Manning's brigade, enabled the enemy to temporarily re-occupy the point of woods near the position assigned to Colonel Cooke, commanding the twenty-seventh North Carolina and the third Arkansas regiments, upon whom the enemy opened a galling fire of musketry, which was replied to with spirit; but the enemy having the cover of the woods, while Colonel Cooke's command was on the open ground, this officer very properly drew them back to a corn-field and behind a rail fence, which gave them partial protection. From this position they kept up an effective fire upon the enemy, driving his artillerists from a battery they were attempting to get into position to bear upon Colonel Cooke's command. They afterwards succeeded in getting off with their guns, but abandoned two caissons filled with rifle ammunition, from which Captain French that night replenished his exhausted limber chests.

Early in the afternoon, Major General Longstreet directed Colonel Cooke, with his own regiment (twenty-seventh North Carolina) and the third Arkansas, to charge the enemy, who was threatening his front as if to pass through the opening between the point of timber held by Ransom's brigade and Longstreet's left. This order was promptly obeyed, in the face of such a fire as troops have seldom encountered without running away, and with a steadiness and unfaltering gallantry seldom equalled. Battery after battery, regiment after regiment opened their fire upon them, hurling a torrent of missiles through their ranks; but nothing could arrest their progress, and three times the enemy broke and fled before their impetuous charge. Finally they reached the fatal picket fences, before alluded to. To climb over them, in the face of such a force and under such

a fire, would have been sheer madness to attempt, and their ammunition being now almost exhausted, Colonel Cooke very properly gave the order to fall back, which was done in the most perfect order; after which, the regiments took up their former position, which they continued to hold until night.

In the meantime, Brigadier General Ransom, whose brigade was further on the left, having driven the enemy through and from the woods with heavy loss, continued with his own brigade and Colonel Hall's, forty-sixth regiment North Carolina, to hold it for the greater portion of the day, notwithstanding three determined infantry attacks, which each time was repulsed with great loss to the enemy, and against a most persistent and terrific artillery fire, by which the enemy hoped, doubtless, to drive us from our strong position, the very key of the battle-field. His hopes, however, were not realized. True to their duty, for eight hours our brave men lay upon the ground, taking advantage of such undulations and shallow ravines as gave promise of partial shelter, while the fearful storm raged a few feet above their heads, tearing the trees asunder, lopping off huge branches and filling the air with shrieks and explosions—realizing to the fullest the fearful sublimity of battle.

During this time, in the temporary absence of General Ransom from his brigade to post the twenty-fourth North Carolina, which had gone too much to the left and beyond Barksdale's brigade, the enemy made a furious attack with heavy masses of infantry upon the position occupied by General Ransom. Colonel Ransom, of the thirty-fifth North Carolina, in temporary command of the brigade, not only repulsed the enemy, but pursued him across the field as far as the post and rail fence, inflicting upon him so severe a punishment that no other attempt of infantry was made on the position during the day. While I was with General Ransom's command, about half past four o'clock in the afternoon, an order was brought from General Longstreet, directing General Ransom to advance and capture the enemy's batteries in his front. Having been previously instructed by General Jackson to hold my position in the woods until General Stuart could turn the enemy's right, and then to advance, I directed General Ransom to delay the execution of General Longstreet's order until I could see General Longstreet in person, and confer with him on the subject. Upon my representation to him, he approved what I had done, and, while we were in conversation on the subject, General Jackson himself joined us and informed us that General Stuart had made the attempt spoken of, but found it impracticable, as the enemy's right was securely posted on the Potomac, and protected by heavy batteries of his reserve artillery. It was then determined that the attempt to force the enemy's right with our fearfully thinned ranks, and in the exhausted condition of our men, was an effort above our strength. Towards five o'clock in the afternoon, I was directed by General Longstreet to move Ransom's brigade towards the right to reinforce our centre, where the enemy were making demonstrations as if for an advance upon our position. No attack was, however, made; but the enemy's artillery continued to play upon the woods, upon our batte-

ries, and upon every position along our line, which they supposed to be occupied by our troops. Our own batteries replying but slowly for the want of ammunition. Gradually, as night approached, this fire died away, and darkness finally put an end to this long and bloody battle. My division rested until next morning where night overtook them, and upon the line occupied by them during the day.

The conduct of the division was generally excellent, and, in some instances, was brilliant in the extreme. I desire, particularly, to call attention to the admirable conduct of the twenty-seventh North Carolina, commanded by Colonel John R. Cooke, and the third Arkansas volunteers, commanded by its senior captain, John W. Reedy.

The coolness and good conduct of Colonel Van H. Manning, commanding brigade, until wounded and carried from the field, is worthy all praise. Colonel Hall, of the forty-sixth North Carolina troops, who, as next in rank, assumed command of the brigade, handled his regiment and the other portions of the brigade falling under his command, with skill and judgment.

To Brigadier General Ransom's coolness, judgment and skill, we are, in a great degree, indebted for the successful maintenance of our position on the left, which, to have been permanently gained by the enemy, would, in all probability, have been to us the loss of the battle.

General Ransom speaks in high terms of the conduct of Colonel Ransom, of the thirty-fifth North Carolina, of Lieutenant Colonel Bryson, of the twenty-fifth, and Adjutant Cooke, of the twenty-fourth North Carolina regiments, as having particularly distinguished themselves.

The light batteries of Captains French and Branch, the latter under command of Lieutenant R. G. Fegram, at different times during the day were engaged with the enemy, and did good service, especially French's, posted on the extreme left, and under the immediate orders of General Stuart.

Captain Wm. A. Smith, my assistant adjutant general, and Lieutenant J. A. Galt, aid-de-camp, were with me upon the field and rendered me valuable assistance in transmitting orders.

The division suffered heavily, particularly Manning's command, (Walker's brigade,) which, at one time, sustained almost the whole fire of the enemy's right wing. Going into the engagement, as it was necessary for us to do, to support the sorely pressed divisions of Hood and Early, it was, of course, impossible to make dispositions based upon a careful reconnoisance of the localities.

The post and rail fences stretching across the fields lying between us and the enemy's position, I regard as the fatal obstacle to our complete success on the left, and success there would, doubtless, have changed the fate of the day. Of the existence of these obstacles none of my division had any previous knowledge, and we learned it at the expense of many valuable lives.

I am, Major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. WALKER,  
Brigadier General commanding.

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL HOOD, OF OPERATIONS OF HIS DIVISION, FROM FREEMAN'S FORD TO BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

DIVISION HEADQUARTERS, September 27, 1862.

Major G. M. SORRELL, A. A. G.:

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of this division, composed of two brigades, fourth Alabama, second and eleventh Mississippi, and sixth North Carolina, Colonel E. M. Law commanding; my own brigade, first, fourth and fifth Texas, eighteenth Georgia and Hampton legion, and Riley's, Bachman's and Garden's batteries, Major B. W. Frobel commanding, in the engagements at Freeman's ford, on the Rappahannock river, August 22d; plains of Manassas, August 29th and 30th; Boonsboro' Gap, Maryland, September 14th, and Sharpsburg, Maryland, September 16th and 17th, 1862:

On the 22d August, agreeable to orders of the commanding General, I proceeded to Freeman's ford to relieve General Trimble's brigade. On my arrival in the afternoon, I found the enemy had crossed over the river, and were in the immediate front of General Trimble. The Texas brigade being placed on the right, and Colonel Law's on the left, the attack was at once made, General Trimble leading off in the centre.

The enemy were driven precipitately over the Rappahannock with considerable loss, not less, I think, than from two to three hundred. During the engagement, Major Whaley, fifth Texas, fell, gallantly discharging his duties. The next night, the command marched to Waterloo ford, and relieved General A. P. Hill's division. From this point, having joined the main body of General Longstreet's forces, the march was continued in the direction of Manassas. On arriving at Thoroughfare Gap, the enemy were drawn up in line to dispute our passage. After a spirited little engagement with them by General D. R. Jones' troops, on the evening of the 28th instant, our forces were able to bivouac for the night, beyond the gap. The next morning, at daylight, the march was again resumed, with this division in the advance, Lieutenant Colonel Upton, of the fifth Texas, in command of a party of select Texan riflemen, constituting the advance guard.

Coming up with the rear guard of the enemy, before sunrise, this gallant and distinguished officer drove them before him so rapidly that halts would have to be made for the troops in rear to rest. Early in the day, we came up with the main body of the enemy on the plains of Manassas, engaging Gen. Jackson's forces. Disposition of the troops being made, the Texas brigade advanced in line of battle down, and on the immediate right of, the pike leading to the stone bridge, and Colonel Law's brigade on the left. Arriving on a line with the line of battle established by General Jackson, the division was halted by order of the General commanding.

About four o'clock in the afternoon, the enemy made a fierce attack upon General Jackson, his noble troops holding their ground with their usual gallantry. At sunset, an order came to me from the commanding General to move forward and attack the enemy. Before, however, this division could come to attention, they were attacked, and I instantly ordered the two brigades to move forward and charge the enemy, which they did most gallantly, driving them in confusion in front of them. Colonel Law's brigade being engaged with a very heavy force of the enemy, captured one piece of artillery, three stands of colors and one hundred prisoners, and the Texas brigade, three stands of colors. It soon became so very dark that it was impossible to pursue the enemy any further.

At twelve o'clock at night, orders came to retake our position on the right of General Jackson, in which we remained until four o'clock, next afternoon, (August 30th,) when the battle of the plains of Manassas commenced, by a most vigorous attack by the enemy upon the right of General Jackson. After a severe struggle, the enemy gave way in great confusion on the left of the pike, and, by direction of the General commanding, I moved forward this division, with the Texas brigade on the right of the pike and Colonel Law's advancing on the left, and passing over to the right. Within one hundred and fifty yards after leaving their position, the Texas brigade became engaged with a heavy force of the enemy; but, with their usual daring and enthusiasm, they charged gallantly on, driving a largely superior force a distance of one and a half miles, causing terrible slaughter in their ranks, capturing a battery of four guns crowning the heights near the Chinn house—Colonel Law's brigade having moved forward on the left, driving the enemy, and accomplishing most noble work in their immediate front. The Texas brigade having gained the heights, and being a long distance in advance of the remainder of our troops, and very much exhausted, I ordered them to halt and hold their ground. Soon after, General Evans' brigade came up and became engaged. I passed on to the heights, and assisted in placing other brigades in position as they arrived on the field, and so soon as my own troops were sufficiently rested, they were brought forward, and slept upon the field of battle near the Sudley ford road.

The noble troops of this division captured four (4) pieces of artillery and eight stands of colors, and, as to their gallantry and unflinching courage, they stand unsurpassed within the history of the world.

Many gallant officers and men fell upon this memorable field, and our country has cause to regret the loss of none of her sons more than that of Lieutenant Colonel John C. Upton, fifth Texas; Major Townsend, of the fourth Texas; Lieutenant Colonel Ruff and Major Griffin, of the eighteenth Georgia, and Captain K. Bryan, acting Major of the fifth Texas, fell, severely wounded, whilst nobly discharging their duties. Of the different regimental commanders, too much cannot be said; Colonel J. B. Robertson, fifth Texas, was wounded, whilst directing his regiment far in advance of the crest of

the hill, when the brigade was ordered to halt; Colonel W. T. Wofford, of the eighteenth Georgia; Lieutenant Colonel B. F. Carter, commanding fourth Texas; Lieutenant Colonel P. A. Work, first Texas; Lieutenant Colonel Gary, commanding Hampton legion; Colonel Stone, second Mississippi; Colonel P. F. Liddell, eleventh Mississippi; Lieutenant Colonel O. K. McLemore, fourth Alabama, and Major R. F. Webb, sixth North Carolina, although not wounded, were conspicuous upon this hotly contested field, leading forward the many brave men of their commands. After all the field and acting field officers of the fifth Texas regiment had fallen, Captain J. N. M. Turner gallantly led that regiment through.

The next day, after burying the dead, the march was continued to Sudley ford, and from thence to Hagerstown, Maryland, via Frederick City, crossing the Potomac at White's ford near Leesburg.

On the morning of the 14th September, we marched back to Boonsboro' Gap, a distance of some thirteen miles. This division, arriving between three and four o'clock, P. M., found the troops of General D. H. Hill engaged with a large force of the enemy. By direction of the commanding General, I took up my position on the left of the pike. Soon orders came to change over to the right, as our troops on that side were giving way to superior numbers. On the march to the right, I met General Drayton's brigade coming out, saying the enemy had succeeded in passing to their rear. I at once inclined more to the right, over a very rugged country, and succeeding in getting in a position to receive the enemy. I at once ordered the Texas brigade, Colonel W. T. Wofford commanding, and the third brigade, Colonel E. M. Law commanding, to move forward with bayonets fixed, which they did with their usual gallantry, driving the enemy and regaining all of our lost ground, when night came on and further pursuit ceased. On this field, fell mortally wounded, Lieutenant Colonel O. K. McLemore, of the fourth Alabama, a most efficient, gallant and valuable officer.

Soon after night, orders were received to withdraw, and for this division to constitute the rear guard of the army. The march was accordingly taken up in the direction of Sharpsburg. Arriving on the heights across the Antietam river, near the town, about twelve, M., on the 15th instant, I was ordered to take position in line of battle on the right of the road leading to Boonsboro', but soon received orders to move to the extreme left, near St. Mumma church, on the Hagerstown pike, remaining in this position, under fire of the shells from the enemy, until nearly sunset on the evening of the 16th.

The enemy, having crossed higher up the Antietam, made an attack upon the left flank of our line of battle, the troops of this division being the only forces on our side engaged. We succeeded in checking and driving back the enemy a short distance, when night came on and soon the firing ceased. During the engagement the brave and efficient Colonel P. F. Liddell, eleventh Mississippi, fell, mortally wounded. The officers and men of my command having been without food for three days, except a half-ration of beef for one

day, and green corn, General Lawton, with two brigades, was directed to take my position, to enable my men to cook.

On the morning of the 17th instant, about three o'clock, the firing commenced along the line occupied by General Lawton. At six o'clock I received notice from him that he would require all the assistance I could give him. A few minutes after, a member of his staff reported to me that he was wounded and wished me to come forward as soon as possible. Being in readiness, I at once marched out on the field, in line of battle, and soon became engaged with an immense force of the enemy, consisting of not less than two corps of their army. It was here that I witnessed the most terrible clash of arms, by far, that has occurred during the war. The two little giant brigades of this division wrestled with this mighty force, losing hundreds of their gallant officers and men, but driving the enemy from his position and forcing him to abandon his guns on our left. The battle raged with the greatest fury until about nine o'clock, the enemy being driven from four to five hundred yards.

Fighting, as we were, at right angles with the general line of battle, and General Ripley's brigade being the extreme left of General D. H. Hill's forces, and continuing to hold their ground, caused the enemy to pour in a heavy fire upon the rear and right flank of Colonel Law's brigade, rendering it necessary to move the division to the left and rear, into the woods near the St. Mumma church, which we continued to hold until ten o'clock, A. M., when General McLaws arrived with his command, which was at once formed in line and moved forward, engaging the enemy. My command was marched to the rear, ammunition replenished, and returned at twelve, M., taking position, by direction of the General commanding, in rear of the church, with orders to hold it.

About four o'clock, P. M., by order, the division moved to the right, near the centre, and remained there until the night of the 18th instant, when orders were received to recross the Potomac.

I would respectfully state that in the morning, about four o'clock, A. M., I sent Major Elanton, aid-de camp, to Major General D. H. Hill, to know if he could furnish any troops to assist in holding the left of our position. He replied that he could not, and the Major General commanding is aware of the number of messages received from me asking for reinforcements, which I felt were absolutely required after seeing the great strength of the enemy in my front, and I am thoroughly of the opinion had General McLaws arrived by half-past eight o'clock, A. M., our victory on the left would have been as thorough, quick and complete, as upon the plains of Manassas on the 30th of August.

During the engagement, Major Dingle, of the Hampton legion, gallantly bearing the colors of his regiment, Major Dale, first Texas, and Major Evans, eleventh Mississippi, fell whilst leading their brave comrades against ten times their numbers. Colonel Stone, Lieutenant Colonel Humphreys and Major Blair, second Mississippi, Lieutenant Colonel Butler, eleventh Mississippi, Captain Scruggs, fourth Alabama, and Major Webb, sixth North Carolina, also received severe

wounds. Conspicuous were Colonels Law and Wofford, commanding brigades. Lieutenant Colonel Gary, commanding Hampton legion; Lieutenant Colonel P. A. Work, commanding first Texas; Lieutenant Colonel B. F. Carter, commanding fourth Texas; Captain Turner, commanding fifth Texas, although not wounded, deserve great credit for their skillful management and coolness during the battle. It is but justice to Colonel J. C. G. Key, fourth Texas, to state that he was present at the battles of Boonsboro' Gap and Sharpsburg, although unable to take command of his regiment, in consequence of a severe wound received at the battle of Gaines' Farm, June 27th, 1862.

During this engagement and that of the battle of Manassas, Riley's, Bachman's and Garden's batteries were admirably handled by the battery commanders; Major B. W. Frobel, commanding, acting with great coolness and judgment upon the field.

Too much cannot be said of the members of my staff. The chief, Major W. H. Sellers, had his horse shot whilst ably directing the Texas brigade, at the battle of Manassas, during the time of my being sent for by the General commanding to receive additional orders. He has proven himself competent to command a brigade under all circumstances. This distinguished officer, together with my two aids, Major B. H. Blanton and Lieutenant James Hamilton, had their horses shot during the battle of Sharpsburg, whilst most gallantly pushing forward the troops and transmitting orders. Major Blanton, Lieutenant Hamilton, Lieutenant Joseph Phillips, G. S. A., of General Magruder's staff, and Captain C. S. Mills, A. Q. M. first Texas regiment, rendered most invaluable service during the battle of Manassas in bringing forward and placing in position additional brigades upon the *long to be remembered* heights around the Chinn house. Lieutenant D. L. Sublett, acting division ordnance officer, was prompt in bringing forward ammunition, and otherwise efficiently performed the duties pertaining to his department. All praise is due Dr. Darby, chief surgeon of the division, for his untiring efforts and skillful manner in caring for the numerous wounded. Dr. Roach, senior surgeon Texas brigade, and Dr. Hubbard, senior surgeon Law's brigade, Dr. Breckinridge, and all other surgeons and assistant surgeons of this command, have my heartfelt thanks for their able services. I would be wrong in not acknowledging the valuable services rendered during the several engagements, in transmitting orders, of the following couriers of this command: M. M. Templeman, T. W. C. Lake, J. P. Mahony, James Malone, W. E. Duncan, J. A. Mann, W. J. Barbee, W. G. Jesse, J. J. Haggerty and J. H. Drake.

For additional particulars reference is made to the reports of brigade and regimental commanders, herewith respectfully submitted.

Below will be found a report of casualties.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. HOOD,

*Brigadier General, commanding Division.*

**GENERAL SUMMARY OF KILLED AND WOUNDED in  
the Division commanded by Brigadier General J. B. Hood.**

	BRIGADES.	KILLED.		WOUNDED.		MISSING.		AGGREGATE.
		Officers.	Enlisted Men.	Officers.	Enlisted Men.	Officers.	Enlisted Men.	
Freeman's Ford.....	Texas.	.....	.....	1	9	.....	.....	10
Manassas Plains.....	"	5	70	33	507	1	12	628
Sharpsburg, Maryl'nd	"	10	59	35	382	1	61	548
Manassas Plains.....	Law's.	3	53	20	244	.....	.....	320
Boonsboro' Gap.....	"	.....	3	2	9	.....	.....	14
Sharpsburg, Maryl'nd	"	6	44	44	335	.....	25	454
Grand total.....		24	229	135	1,486	2	98	1,974

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL RODES.

HEADQUARTERS D. H. HILL'S DIVISION, }  
February 4, 1863. }

Lieutenant Colonel C. J. FAULKNER,  
*A. A. G., Headquarters Second Corps:*

COLONEL: In reply to your note of yesterday, I beg to say that I am informed that General Hill has already forwarded to General Lee a report of the operations of this division during the period indicated. Under these circumstances, and being only temporarily in command of the division, I would respectfully refer the Lieutenant General commanding to that document.

I have the honor to be, Colonel,

Your obedient servant,

R. E. RODES,  
*Brig. Gen. commanding Division.*

REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL D. R. JONES OF SECOND  
BATTLE OF MANASSAS, AND OPERATIONS IN MARY-  
LAND.

RICHMOND, VA., December 8, 1862.

Major G. M. SORREL,  
*A. A. G., Longstreet's Corps:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following reports of the movements of my division, and of the part it performed in the engagements of the campaign in Northern Virginia and Maryland. Serious illness and absence from the field has delayed its appearance till now:

On the 15th August last, the division I commanded reached Gordonsville by rail, and camped near that place. Marching thence, and crossing Rapidan river on the 18th, on the 23d, under order from General Longstreet, I advanced Drayton's brigade on the road leading to Beverly ford, on the Rappahannock river, in support of the Washington artillery, sending Anderson's brigade to the right, in direction of railroad bridge, with orders to report to General Evans, supporting artillery in that direction.

Fire was to be opened on the enemy's batteries simultaneously. Anderson's brigade, being under command of General Evans, will figure in his report. Drayton's brigade, supported by Toombs' brigade, commanded by Colonel Benning, of seventeenth Georgia, took no part in the action which ensued, the river not being fordable in their front, and suffered but few casualties.

On the 25th, I took position in front of Waterloo bridge, sending forward a regiment of sharpshooters from Drayton's brigade, which, engaging the enemy across the river, suffered some slight loss. Crossing the Rappahannock river, I reached Thoroughfare Gap on the 28th, and, under orders from General Longstreet, sent forward the ninth Georgia regiment, Anderson's brigade, in the gap, following it with my whole division, which I disposed of by placing Anderson's brigade on the hill to the left, with Drayton's brigade and two regiments of Toombs' brigade on the hill to the right, holding the other two regiments of Toombs' brigade in reserve. The ninth Georgia drove out some few of the enemy's skirmishers, who fell back on their main body, then seen advancing from the woods, in front of the gap, and taking position on the plateau, parallel with the mountain range, and distant therefrom about half a mile. They appeared before my disposition of troops had been completed and opened a very heavy fire of artillery on the road and on the mountain sides flanking it. Having no artillery to reply with, there being no position in which it could be placed, so far as I had been able to reconnoitre the ground, the enemy advanced his guns to a point but little over three hundred yards from the entrance to the gap, and made heavy demonstrations on the right and left, bringing him in contact with Anderson's bri-

gade on the left, which repulsed him in most gallant style and with heavy loss. In this encounter, the first Georgia regulars greatly distinguished themselves.

On the right, the demonstration resulted only in skirmishing. After the repulse of his efforts at flanking, the enemy withdrew his artillery to the plateau on which he had at first appeared, and kept up a very heavy fire till dark, when, appearances indicating his retreat, I advanced my command and bivouacked beyond the gap unmolested by the enemy. The intense darkness and ignorance of the fords over the creek in my front prevented pursuit.

My entire loss in this engagement was not more than twenty-five. The number of the enemy engaged amounted to over eleven thousand, under the command of General Ricketts, as appeared from northern papers.

My division, of three brigades, was alone engaged on our side.

Early on the morning of the 29th, I took up the line of march in the direction of the old battle ground of Manassas, whence heavy firing was heard; arriving on the ground about noon, my command was stationed on the extreme right of our whole line, and, during the balance of the day, was subjected to shelling, resulting in but few casualties. On the morning of the 30th, slight alterations were made in the disposition of my command, throwing it more forward and to the right. The battle, meanwhile, raging fiercely on the left, about five o'clock in the afternoon, my command was ordered forward; I brought it up with the exception of Drayton's brigade, which was detained by a report from Captain Rosser, of the cavalry, on the extreme right, that the enemy were attempting to flank our line in that direction. I took position near the "Chinn house," with the brigades of Toombs and Anderson, and anticipating what my orders would be, General Longstreet not being then near me, and seeing the great results within reach, I pushed them forward upon the enemy, designing, with Drayton's brigade, to turn and completely sweep the right of the field. The two brigades went in most gallantly, suffering severe loss. Again and again did I send for Drayton, who, after delaying till he heard the unfounded nature of the report on which he acted, hurried up at speed and went in on the right, only a few moments before firing ceased, at dusk, too late to accomplish the results contemplated. General Toombs, released from the arrest under which he had been since the 18th instant, came upon the field shortly after his brigade went under fire, and accompanied it in action. He brought me orders from General Longstreet, directing the movements I had anticipated and was then making. Night came on, and my troops slept on the field.

Both Anderson's and Toombs' brigades suffered severely in the action. In the former brigade of five regiments, but one field officer was untouched. Colonel Wilson, of the seventh Georgia, the grey-haired hero of many fights, fell, mortally wounded. Officers and men never behaved better than did mine on that day. On the morning of the 31st, I took up line of march in the direction of Sudley ford, crossing at it, and marching to Chantilly the next day; whence, under

orders from General Longstreet, I sent Toombs' and Anderson's brigades to the support of General Jackson, who was engaged with the enemy at Ox Hill. These brigades took up line of battle on the right of the turnpike, and slowly advanced into the woods bordering it, supposed to contain the enemy. Night coming on and no enemy being visible, my troops were withdrawn to the road for bivouac. Captain Thurston ordnance officer of my division, was here captured while carrying my orders, riding into the enemy's lines by mistake.

Remaining in position at Ox Hill during the 2nd, I marched, on the 3rd, for Leesburg by the Dranesville road, crossing Goose creek and reaching that place on the evening of the 4th. On the morning of 6th September, I crossed my division into Maryland, now increased to six brigades, by the addition of Kemper's brigade, Pickett's brigade, commanded by Brigadier General Garnett, and Jenkins' brigade, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Walker, marched through Buckeystown, and camped on the banks of the Monocacy, marching next day to the Monocacy Junction and going into camp near Federick City.

On the morning of the 10th, I marched through Boonsboro' Funks-town and Hagerstown, camping near the latter place on the Williamsport road, on the 12th.

On the 14th, I marched, on the Frederick road, in the direction of that city, hearing heavy firing, leaving Toombs' brigade in command of Hagerstown, and eleventh Georgia regiment, of Anderson's brigade, in charge of wagon train. Halting just beyond Boonsboro', Drayton's and Anderson's brigades were temporarily detached from my command and ordered to report to General D. H. Hill. With my three other brigades present, I was ordered, by General Longstreet, to march to a pass about a mile to the right of the main road, through which the enemy was said to be flanking our army.

Reaching the pass and finding the report incorrect, I was directed to bring my brigades as rapidly as possible back to the main road and to the mountain top, and, under orders from General Longstreet, placed Kemper and Garnett, supported by Jenkins' brigade, in position on the ridge to the left of the road and above it. While taking position, my troops were exposed to severe shelling, and shortly afterwards, to a heavy infantry attack in overwhelming numbers. Despite the odds, they held their ground until dark, when the brigades on my left giving way, they were withdrawn in comparatively good order to the foot of the mountain. The enemy did not pursue his advantage, and our troops were marched to Sharpsburg, which we reached on the morning of the 15th. On this march Anderson's brigade was assigned to General Hood, to act as a rear guard, and General Toombs, with two regiments of his brigade, joined me, the balance of his brigade having been sent to Williamsport with wagons.

My command took possession of the heights in front of and to the right of the town, being the extreme right of our whole line. I ordered General Toombs to defend the bridge over the Antietam creek in front of me, with the second and twentieth Georgia regiments, reinforced by a half company from Jenkins' brigade and the fiftieth Georgia regiment, of Drayton's brigade. These reinforcements took

but small part in what ensued, from the nature of their position. The enemy appeared on the opposite side of the creek, and heavy artillery firing was kept up during the day, continuing also the 16th, with but little damage to my command.

Daylight of the 17th of September, gave the signal for a terrific cannonade. The battle raged with intensity on the left and centre; but the heavy masses in my front, repulsed again and again in their attempts to force the passage of the bridge by the two regiments before named, comprising four hundred and three men, assisted by artillery I had placed in position on the heights, were unable to effect a crossing, and manœuvred as if about to cross below, at some of the numerous fords. My command had been further reduced on the right, by detaching Garnett's brigade to the front of the town, leaving me for the defense of the right, with only Toombs' two regiments, and Kemper's, Drayton's and Walker's brigades.

When it is known that on that morning, my entire command of six brigades, comprised only two thousand four hundred and thirty men, the enormous disparity of force with which I contended can be seen.

About this time the two regiments of Toombs' brigade, seventeenth and fifteenth Georgia, which had been left behind, accompanied by five companies of the eleventh Georgia regiment, Anderson's brigade, came upon the field and were at once placed at General Toombs' disposal to aid in the defence of the bridge. My force before having been too weak to aid him with a single man. Before, however, they could be made available for that purpose the gallant second and twentieth, having repulsed five separate assaults and exhausted their last round of ammunition, fell back, leaving the bridge to the enemy. Meanwhile General A. P. Hill had come up on my right, and was effecting a junction with my line, several of his batteries already in position, assisting mine in firing on the enemy now swarming over the bridge. Undeterred, except momentarily, by this fire, the enemy advanced in enormous masses, to the assault of the heights. Sweeping up to the crest, they were mowed down by Brown's battery, the heroic commander of which had been wounded but a few moments before. They overcame the tough resistance offered by the feeble forces opposed to them, and gained the heights, capturing McIntosh's battery, of General Hill's command. Kemper and Drayton were driven back through the town; the fifteen South Carolina, Colonel De Sausure, fell back very slowly and in order, forming the nucleus on which the brigade rallied. Jenkins' brigade held its own, and from its position in the orchard, poured a destructive fire on the enemy.

General Toombs, whom I had sent for, arriving from the right, with a portion of his brigade and part of the eleventh Georgia regiment, was ordered to charge the enemy. This he did most gallantly, supported by Archer's brigade, of Hill's command, delivering fire at less than fifty yards, dashing at the enemy with the bayonet, forcing him from the crest and following him down the hill, McIntosh's battery was retaken, and, assisted by other pieces which were now brought up to the edge of the crest, a terrific fire was opened on the lines of the enemy between the slope and the creek, which finally breaking them,

caused a confused retreat to the bridge. Night had now come on, putting an end to the conflict, and leaving my command in possession of the ground we had held in the morning, with the exception of the bridge. In this day's battle fell Lieut. Colonel Holmes, second Georgia, and Colonel Mulligan, fifteenth Georgia, dying as brave men should do.

In the morning of the 18th, much sharpshooting took place, continuing all day. At nine o'clock, P. M., I took up line of march for the Potomac, which river I crossed, taking with me all my artillery, wagons and material, without any loss whatever, camping near Shepherdstown, Virginia, on the morning of the 19th.

I have the greatest reason to be satisfied with the officers and men of my command.

To my staff, I am particularly indebted. Major Conard, my A. A. General, displayed on all occasions that cool courage and discrimination which predict for him a brilliant military career. I am much gratified at his well merited promotion.

Captain Osman Latrobe, my inspector general, on all occasions, and particularly at Sharpsburg, conducted himself with distinguished gallantry. Wherever the battle raged hottest, there was he directing and encouraging the troops. I earnestly recommend his promotion to the rank of major. Surgeon Barksdale, of my staff, did more than his duty, exposing himself on the field, and rendering me valuable assistance.

Captain Philip B. Jones, Jr., volunteer aid on my staff, displayed great gallantry, carrying my orders through the heat of battle. Captain E. N. Thurston, my ordnance officer, previous to his capture at Ox Hill, carried my orders with great promptness, displaying perfect coolness on all occasions when in the face of the enemy.

My regular aid-de-camp, First Lieutenant J. W. Ford, during the recent campaign was acting as assistant quartermaster of my division, and discharged the duties of his office to my entire satisfaction. It affords me pleasure to mention in the highest terms the efficiency of Major Moses, my division commissary.

Mr. Charles W. Williams, volunteer aid on my staff, was of much service to me. He was with me throughout the campaign, and never for one moment did he falter in his zeal for the service, or his conspicuous coolness. I heartily recommend him for a commission in the Confederate service. Captain H. E. Young, A. A. General, and Mr. Hugh Rose, volunteer aids for the occasion, served most faithfully, obeying with cool courage and much gallantry, all orders given them.

D. R. JONES, *Major General.*

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL J. R. JONES OF OPERATIONS FROM SEPTEMBER 7TH, TO DECEMBER 12TH, 1862.

HEADQUARTERS JONES' BRIGADE, }  
January 21, 1862. }

Major PENDLETON,

*A. A. G., Headquarters Second Corps:*

MAJOR: In obedience to orders, received from corps headquarters, I respectfully submit the following report of the operations of Jackson's division, during the period which I had the honor to command it, being from September 7th, to December 12th, 1862:

The division reached Frederick City, Maryland, on the 7th September, and was encamped one mile from the city, with the exception of Jones' brigade, which was placed in the city as provost guard. I found the division, at this time, very much reduced in numbers by the recent severe battles and the long wearisome marches. Orders were received on Tuesday night, 10th September, to march at three o'clock the following morning. The march was continued across the Potomac, at Williamsport, through Martinsburg to the vicinity of Harper's Ferry.

It is impossible, at this point, to pay the well-merited tribute to the conduct of the soldiers of this division during their march through Maryland. Never had the army been so dirty, ragged and ill-provided for as on this march, and yet there was no marauding, no plundering. The right of person and property were strictly respected, eliciting the following comparison from the New York World, of December 15th: "The ragged, half-starved rebels passed through Maryland without disorder or marauding, without injury to the country, showing their excellent discipline. The well-fed, well-clothed Union soldiers laid waste everything before them, plundering houses, hen-roosts and pig-pens, showing an utter want of discipline."

CAPTURE OF HARPER'S FERRY.

Encamped four miles from Harper's Ferry. On the 14th, orders were received to move the division near the Potomac and above Bolivar Heights, on which the enemy was strongly posted. Commanding positions were secured for the batteries and a heavy fire opened upon the works of the enemy and their line of battle, while good work was done by our batteries. The enemy replied without effect, not a single casualty occurring in the division. Towards night I ordered the division to move near the river, directing Starke's brigade to rest on the river road to prevent the enemy from making his escape, if he should attempt to do so. At dawn, on the 15th, the attack was renewed, and at nine o'clock, A. M., the garrison surrendered, much to

the joy of the toil-worn soldiers, who were ready again to encounter the enemy, if necessary. At three o'clock, P. M., orders were received to march back to camp, and cook two days' rations, and be ready to march. The cooking was done about twelve o'clock at night, and at one the march was commenced, reaching the Potomac at sunrise. The division was hurried across, and on to Sharpsburg.

#### BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

Resting for two hours in a grove a mile from Sharpsburg, the division was again put in motion, and took up its position on the extreme left, its right resting on the Sharpsburg and Hagerstown turnpike. A double line was formed—the front, composed of Jones' and Winder's brigades, placed in an open field, under the immediate command of Colonel Grigsby; Taliaferro's and Stuart's brigades forming the reserves, placed at the edge of a wood, under the immediate command of Brigadier General Starke; the whole under the command of Brigadier General J. R. Jones.

This disposition was made about two hours before night, on the 16th of September, 1862. Two companies were at once thrown forward as skirmishers, and Poague's battery was placed in the road on the right. A battery of the enemy, about five hundred yards in front and to the right, was playing upon the troops of Hood's division, which was on my right. Poague's battery opened briskly upon it and silenced it in twenty minutes. The skirmishers were warmly engaged until night. The troops lay on their arms all night, the silence of which was broken by occasional firing from the skirmishers. At the dawn of day, on the 17th, the battle opened fiercely. A storm of shell and grape fell upon the division from several batteries in front, and at very short range, and from batteries of heavy guns, on the extreme right, which enfiladed the position of the division and took it in reverse. These batteries were gallantly replied to by the batteries of the division, Poague's Carpenter's Brockenbrough's, Raines', Caskie's and Wooding's. It was during this almost unprecedented iron storm that a shell exploded a little above my head, and so stunned and injured me, that I was rendered unfit for duty, and retired from the field, turning over the command to Brigadier General Starke, who, in half an hour afterwards, advanced his lines to meet the infantry of the enemy which was approaching. The infantry became at once engaged, and the gallant and generous Starke fell, pierced by three balls, and survived but a few moments. His fall cast a gloom upon the troops: they never, for a moment faltered, but rushed upon the enemy and drove him back.

The struggle continued for several hours, the enemy all the time receiving reinforcements and the division, not numbering over one thousand six hundred men at the beginning of the fight, having no support, was finally compelled to fall back to its original line. Early's brigade coming up at this opportune moment, (Colonel Grigsby commanding,) the division rallied its scattered columns and joined General Early, and drove the enemy half a mile from the field, capturing many

prisoners, and covering the field with the dead wounded of the enemy.

After this repulse, the division was ordered back to a grove to rest and get ammunition, when, in the evening, it again advanced to the support of the battery; but did not become engaged with the enemy. In this bloody conflict, the old stonewall division lost nothing of its fair name and fame. Having won a world-wide fame by its valor and endurance in the splendid campaign in the valley, it entered upon another series of fights, commencing at Richmond and going through Cedar Run, Manassas, Harper's Ferry and Sharpsburg, entering the last weary and worn, and reduced to the numbers of a small brigade, with its officers stricken down in the many fierce engagements, closing with a colonel commanding the division, captains commanding brigades, lieutenants commanding regiments. In this fight every man was a hero, and it would be invidious to mention particular names.

Winder's brigade was commanded successively by Colonel Grigsby and Major (now Lieutenant Colonel) Williams, fifth Virginia regiment; Jones' brigade by Captains Penn, Page and Withers, the two first losing a leg; Taliaferro's brigade, by Colonel G. W. Jackson, and Colonel Sheffield; Starke's brigade, by General Starke, Colonel A. L. Stafford, ninth Louisiana regiment, and Colonel Edward Pendleton, fifteenth Louisiana.

Enclosed are reports of the various brigade commanders, which give more particularly the parts taken by their brigades.

The list of casualties has already been furnished, amounting to about seven hundred killed and wounded.

This brief report is respectfully submitted,

J. R. JONES,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL WILCOX OF BATTLE OF KELLEY'S FORD.

HEADQUARTERS ANDERSON'S DIVISION, }  
October 11, 1862. }

Major G. M. SORREL, *Assistant Adjutant General*:

SIR: I beg to submit the following report of an affair with the enemy near Kelly's Ford, on the Rappahannock, on the 21st of August last. This skirmish occurred between a portion of General Featherston's brigade and the enemy, and afterwards between our artillery and the enemy:

The division crossed the Rapidan at Raccoon ford on the 20th of August, and, continuing its march, bivouacked for the night about five miles from Kelly's ford, on the Rappahannock. Early next morning the march was resumed, the three brigades under my command leading the advance. The march was continued on the road to Stephensburg, till we came to a road that bore off to the right, to Kelly's ford. My command was directed to take this road. Advancing about one and a half miles, we crossed a small stream, Mountain Run, (my brigade did not cross this run,) this run being about two miles from the ford. We had not advanced far beyond Mountain Run when cavalry pickets, that had been posted on this road near the ford, returned, reporting that a large cavalry force had crossed the Rappahannock and were advancing on the road. I immediately ordered two regiments from Featherston's brigade to be formed in line of battle, one on each side of the road, and each of these regiments to be preceded by a line of skirmishers; the remainder of Featherston's brigade close in rear, and Pryor in rear of Featherston.

I now ordered the lines to advance. This had not continued long when a shot was heard on the right, and it soon became quite brisk, and extended to the left. Our lines continued to advance until the skirmishers reached a fence. This was about one thousand yards from the Rappahannock—a field extending down to the river, the ground falling gradually. Some four hundred yards in this field, a few of the enemy's skirmishers were seen. On the far side of the Rappahannock the enemy's camp was visible, being on high ground, much higher than where we were. The camp covered considerable space. The skirmishers continued to fire at each other. Two of my men were wounded here.

The Major General commanding now directed me to withdraw my force back across Mountain Run, leaving a picket force on the far side. I directed two companies to be posted at the junction of two roads, both of which led to the ford (Kelly's) and two regiments in rear of these companies some three or four hundred yards. The two companies left at the forks of the road were Captains Feltus and Hardy's, sixteenth Mississippi regiment; the two regiments in

the rear were the remainder of the sixteenth Mississippi and the twelfth Mississippi. The enemy, seeing that our forces had withdrawn, made a spirited dash with his cavalry at these two companies, and, being much superior in numbers, surrounded them, and demanded a surrender. Captain Feltus immediately gave the command to "fire," which was done with effect, killing nine horses and emptying several saddles. The heavy firing caused Colonel Posey to send a third company to the assistance of these two, but they had already driven the enemy off, and now fell back to their supports, the two regiments. Colonel Posey now posted the twelfth Mississippi in a corn-field on his left, which fronted upon an open field, no danger being apprehended on his right, as there was a dense forest on that flank. Scarcely had the twelfth Mississippi taken its position when a very large cavalry force made its appearance in the open field, at some distance off, but showing an evident design to attack. Colonel Posey moved, unobserved by the enemy, at double-quick time, with the sixteenth Mississippi, to the support of the twelfth Mississippi. He had barely reached his position, when the enemy's cavalry came down in line at full speed. When at good range the command to "fire" was given, and one volley from the two regiments scattered the cavalry, with the utmost confusion. Some thirty saddles were emptied, and the cavalry were scattered over the field for more than a mile. At length they reformed, far off from the infantry that had just punished them so severely. But they were in full view of where my own and General Pryor's brigades were resting, on high ground, in an open field, on the far side of the Mountain Run. I directed Captain Anderson, Thomas artillery, to come into battery on high ground, under cover of some pine, with his Parrott gun, and to fire upon them. It has never been my pleasure to witness such beautiful shots, as the first half-dozen shell that were thrown at them. Each shell burst at the right place and time, and seemed to create more confusion and inflict greater loss upon them than the infantry fire. This artillery fire drove them entirely out of view; and nothing more was seen of them until about five o'clock, P. M., when the cavalry re-appeared. Three rifled pieces were now placed in position, and, after a few rounds, the cavalry fled again in confusion.

My command was now, near sundown, put in march in rear of the column for Stephensburg. Just at this time the enemy re-appeared on the ground where his cavalry had been twice repulsed by our artillery. This time he came with four pieces of rifled artillery, and began to fire upon us as we were moving off. It was now quite late, and as we were soon out of sight and danger, I did not conceive it necessary to return this fire, as my orders were to follow the remainder of the division, which was now in motion.

Much credit is due to Colonel Posey, sixteenth Mississippi, and Captain Feltus for the handsome manner in which they repelled the attack of the Federal cavalry, which was much superior in numbers. Captain Anderson, of the Thomas artillery, also displayed much skill in the handling of his battery, and in the accuracy of his shots and the bursting of his shells.

In this affair our loss was two (2) killed and twelve (12) wounded.  
Pursuing our march, we bivouacked at Stephensburg at one o'clock  
at night.

Very respectfully, &c., &c.,

C. M. WILCOX,  
*Brigadier General commanding, &c., &c.*

# REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL WILCOX OF SECOND BATTLE OF MANASSAS.

HEADQUARTERS ANDERSON'S DIVISION,  
October 11, 1862.

Major G. M. SORREL,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part borne by my command at the battle of Manassas, on the 30th of August last:

The command of General Longstreet bivouacked on the night of the 27th of August at White Plains. On the following day the march was resumed, following the road leading through Thoroughfare Gap. Arriving near this gap, it was found to be occupied by the enemy, supposed to be in strong force. The three brigades under my command—my own, Generals Featherston's and Pryor's—were, together with two batteries of artillery, mostly rifled pieces, detached from the main command and moved off to the left over a rough and hilly road, in the direction of Hopewell Gap, with orders to force our way through it should the enemy be found to hold it.

After a tedious, fatiguing, and rather difficult march, the gap was reached at ten o'clock, P. M. Halting the column, a regiment was detached, preceded by a company, both under the direction of Brigadier General Pryor, with instructions to approach the pass cautiously with the view of ascertaining if it was held by the enemy, and if so, as to his probable strength. In a half or three-quarters of an hour, General Pryor reported that he had threaded his way through the pass as far as Antioch Church, near one mile beyond. The troops were then moved forward through the pass, and, after posting pickets on the various roads and mountain paths that diverged from the gap, the command at twelve o'clock bivouacked for the night.

Hopewell Gap is about three miles from Thoroughfare Gap, being connected with the latter on the east side by two roads, one of which is impracticable for wagons. The enemy had been at this pass during the day, but retired before night, thus giving us a free passage. Early the following morning our march was resumed, and the command rejoined at half-past nine, A. M., the remainder of the division, at the intersection of the two roads leading from the gaps above-mentioned.

Pursuing our line of march, together with the division, we passed by Gainesville, and, advancing some three miles beyond, my three brigades were formed in line of battle on the left and at right angles to the turnpike. Having advanced near three-quarters of a mile, we were then halted. The enemy was in our front and not far distant. Several of our batteries were placed in position on a commanding eminence to the left of the turnpike. A cannonading ensued and continued for an hour or two, to which the enemy's artillery replied.

At half-past four or five, P. M., the three brigades were moved across to the right of the turnpike, a mile or more, to the Manassas Gap railroad. While here musketry was heard to our left on the turnpike. This firing continued with more or less vivacity until sundown. Now the command was ordered back to the turnpike, and forward on this to the support of Gen. Hood, who had become engaged with the enemy and had driven him back some distance, inflicting severe loss upon him, being checked in his successes by the darkness of the night.

After reaching General Hood's position, but little musketry was heard. All soon became quiet. Our pickets were thrown out to the front. The enemy's camp-fires soon became visible, extending far off to our left, front and right. Remaining in this position until twelve o'clock at night, the troops were withdrawn three-quarters of a mile to the rear, and bivouacked, pickets being left to guard our front. Before sunrise the next morning, August 30th, the pickets began to fire. At times it became quite rapid. The enemy could be seen relieving their skirmishers. The firing between the skirmishers continued with but little intermission throughout the day. Batteries were placed in position on the left of the turnpike on commanding heights where they had been the day before. They soon attracted the fire of the enemy's artillery.

Before seven, A. M., Pryor's brigade was placed in position in line at right angles to the turnpike, in rear of a fence, in woods—an open field extending to the front more than a mile, the surface of which was varied with a succession of valleys and hills—Featherston's brigade in line on his left, and extending so far to the left as to be in contact with the extreme right of General Jackson's command. My brigade was in the woods to the rear of the centre of the line occupied by the other two brigades. In front of General Pryor, in the open field, was Col. Law's brigade (Hood's division;) on the right of the road was Gen. Hood's brigade, in the woods; extending far to the right of Hood were other brigades of the division. The infantry and artillery fire continued during most of the day. At times the enemy's infantry and artillery were plainly visible, moving in different directions, both to the right and left of the road. Wagons could be seen moving off in the direction of Bull Run, and clouds of dust further off in that direction. About half-past three, P. M., the enemy's infantry were seen emerging from a wood upon an open field, in line of battle, the woods and field being in front of Jackson's extreme right and to the left and near Featherston's brigade. This field was about five hundred yards wide and terminated about one hundred and fifty yards from Jackson's line—the ground here rising rather steeply for a short distance, and then level to the railroad, behind the embankment of which, at this point, were Jackson's men. Seeing this advance of the enemy, I repaired at once to the interval between Pryor's and Featherston's brigades. From this point there was an excellent view of the field, and not more than four hundred yards distant. The first line of the enemy advanced in fine style across the open field. There was but little to oppose them. They were fired upon by our pickets and

skirmishers; but they continued to advance, and, ascending the rise above referred to, came within full view of Jackson's line, and were here received with a terrific fire of musketry, at short range. They hesitated for an instant, recoiling slightly, and then advanced to near the embankment. Twice did I see this line advance and retire, exposed to a close and deadly fire of musketry. Seeing a second line issuing from the woods upon the field, I was in the act of ordering a battery to be placed in a position to fire upon them, when a battery was directed by the Major General commanding to fire upon them; this battery being near the turnpike, in an excellent and commanding position. The fire of this battery was most opportunely delivered upon this advancing line of the enemy. They were caught in the open field. The effect of every shot could be seen. A rapid fire of shot, shell, and spherical case, delivered with admirable precision, checked their advance. As the shells and spherical case would burst over, in front, and near them, their ranks would break, hesitate and scatter. This artillery fire alone broke regiment after regiment, and drove them back into the woods. Seeing these successive lines and regiments of the enemy checked and finally driven back, and yet their front line quite close upon Jackson's line, thus leaving an interval of more than six hundred yards between them and the broken, retreating lines, I ordered Gen. Featherston to move his brigade by the flank, rapidly down the slope in his front, and thus take in rear, or intercept the retreat of the enemy that were so closely engaged with Jackson. This order was repeated three times, and in the most positive and peremptory manner; but it was not obeyed. At length the front line of the enemy, sadly thinned by the close fire of Jackson's men behind the railway bank, broke and fell back with great precipitancy and disorder, followed by a portion of Jackson's troops. Featherston now descended the slope in his front, and joined in the pursuit across the open field. Pryor's brigade was also ordered to follow rapidly.

The fleeing enemy, under cover of the woods, endeavored to reform, and to contest the field with us; but our men, inspirated by their success, eagerly rush forward, scarcely halting to deliver their fire. The Federals are forced to continue their hurried retreat. The wood through which the enemy fled, some six or seven hundred yards wide, are at length crossed, and a second field of three-quarters of a mile wide is in our front. The surface of this field, beginning near the woods, ascends slightly, and, then descending somewhat further, rises again higher than it is near the woods. In the edge of this field, I directed my command to halt for a few minutes to reform line, they having become broken and somewhat scattered, from their rapid pursuit of the enemy, and traversing the thick woods. While my men were reforming, I rode to the crest of the ridge in front of me, and saw two entire regiments descending rapidly into the valley. The time lost in reforming my men enabled these retreating regiments to gain shelter in the woods on the far side of the field. It is proper that I should state that the field in which my command was now being formed, was swept by a brisk artillery fire, about twelve hundred yards distant, the men being but indifferently protected by the ridge

in front. This fire was borne by the men with great coolness, no disorder or embarrassment being perceptible.

Being now occupied in forming the command for an advance across the field into the woods, where the enemy had retreated, and for the attack upon the batteries to our right and front, that were delivering a most annoying fire upon us, I was ordered by the Major General commanding, to move with my brigade to the right of the turnpike to the support of General Hood. I now directed General Pryor, who was near me, to confer with General Featherston, and to indicate to him my plans for the further pursuit of the enemy. For information as to the services of these two brigades in the subsequent part of the action, I beg to refer you to the report of their respective commanders herewith enclosed. In obedience to the orders above mentioned, I marched my brigade to the right of the turnpike, and advanced on that side.

In all of this change of position, (in all more than two miles,) the brigade was exposed to a heavy fire of the enemy's artillery, and at two different parts of the field, I had to bear off to the rear so as not to obstruct the fire of our own artillery. This caused some little delay in my advance. On the right of the turnpike, the enemy seemed to have been driven back even faster and further than on the left. Seeing no person to tell me where General Hood was engaged, I continued to advance as rapidly as possible, frequently at double-quick time, and in the direction of the most advanced and heaviest firing. At length having crossed a deep ravine, and risen to the summit of the ascent on the far side, the portion of the field where the musketry fight was then going on, was in close proximity, it being in a skirt of woods bordering a small stream, not three hundred yards distant. To reach this, there was an open level field, and then a short and abrupt descent to the stream. While crossing this field, we were exposed to a close artillery fire of the enemy from a battery in front of where our men were then engaged. In addition to this, two brigades of the enemy's infantry, who were approaching obliquely the field where the musketry fire was then raging, reaching the crest of a hill, and seeing my brigade moving to the same point, halted and fired a volley deliberately at my men, but at near five hundred yards distant. They fired one after the other; the leading brigades moved to the rear after firing through the intervals of the second. The balls in each came near, but inflicted a trifling loss, only two or three men wounded slightly. It was now late, sundown. My men crossed the little stream near which the fight was then still raging, passed through the woods skirting it, and then changed direction to the left, so as to occupy the same line that our troops were then occupying. They were then thrown into the woods, and cautioned to be careful not to fire upon our own men, who were then engaged. My men entered where Wright's brigade had been engaged, and near where General Toombs had been engaged. This was the first time that my men had been engaged in close musketry fight on the right of the turnpike. The fighting here was soon over, but the musketry fire was of the heaviest kind while it lasted. The firing continued till after dark for

more than a half hour, and then gradually ceased. The artillery continued to fire after the musketry had ceased, but by half-past eight o'clock it had all ceased. My brigade bivouacked at this point of the field, which was the most advanced point reached by our infantry, and near the hill where Bee and Bartow fell, on the 21st July, 1861, the first battle of Manassas.

The list of casualties of the three brigades having been previously forwarded, it will suffice to state that the entire loss of killed, wounded and missing was three hundred and thirty, (four missing.)

In closing this report, I beg to assure the Major General commanding, that both men and officers of my brigade behaved in a manner highly creditable to them. I will only bring to his favorable notice in this report the four regimental commanders of the brigade, viz: Major Williams, commanding ninth Alabama; Major Herbert, eighth; Captain Saunders, eleventh, and Major Caldwell, tenth Alabama. It will be seen that there was no field officer of higher rank than Major, and of those but three.

To my personal staff, Captain Walter E. Winn, A. A. General, and Lieutenant M. M. Lindsey, nineteenth Mississippi, my thanks are especially due for their willingness and promptness in rendering their services at all times during the engagement.

I would also bring to your favorable notice private J. C. Causey, of the third Virginia cavalry, my courier, who received, late in the action, (after dark,) a painful wound on the head, from a piece of shell, while carrying an order to one of my regiments.

The enclosed reports of Generals Featherston and Pryor, will bring to your notice such instances of men and officers in their brigades as are deserving of commendation.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. M. WILCOX,

*Brigadier General commanding, &c., &c.*

BRIGADIER GENERAL FRENCH'S REPORT OF HIS  
NIGHT ATTACK ON THE SHIPPING AND CAMP OF  
GENERAL McCLELLAN.

HEADQUARTERS, PETERSBURG, VA., August 31, 1862.

General D. H. Hill,

*Commanding Department of North Carolina:*

GENERAL: Numerous causes have prevented my sending you a report, ere this, of an attack on the shipping and camp of General McClellan, by the expedition under my command, on the night of the 31st of July last.

On the morning of July 29th, you directed me to have the brigades commanded by Colonels Manning and Daniel ready to move the following night. But when I had an interview, that evening at ten, P. M., you directed me to have them move at seven o'clock the next morning, together with six batteries of field artillery. All started at the hour named, and, according to instructions, halted at a saw mill, some seven miles distant, on the road to Coggin's Point. I left Petersburg at ten, A. M., and, on arriving at the mill, found you, in company with General W. N. Pendleton, of the artillery, who had marched there, under your orders, in command of thirty-two field guns and four siege pieces.

Although you had on the day previous shown me General Lee's letter suggesting that I would have charge of the expedition, it was there for the first time made known to me that you designed the attack to be made at night, and showed me some sketches of Coggin's Point, a sort of peninsula, round which the James river sweeps, diminishing its width to about a thousand yards, and directly opposite to which is Harrison's landing. Beyond this landing were large encampments of the enemy, his shipping extending above and below for a distance of two miles. No time could be lost; so, in company with General Pendleton and some of his field officers, I proceeded to examine the ground and select positions for the guns, and observe the enemy. This reconnoissance occupied us until about nine o'clock and caused a delay in the advance of the artillery. On our return we met the advance guns and ordered them to be halted, and, at the suggestion of General Pendleton, I determined to report to you that an attack could not be made that night, chiefly because the night was far advanced, the darkness intense, and that many of the officers who would command batteries had not examined the ground, the roads, nor the shipping they designed to fire on, and many pieces of artillery were far in the rear. I found you at the Merchant's Hope church, where you had posted the two brigades of infantry. In company with General Pendleton, I explained to you the necessity of delaying the attack. You expressed apprehensions of a failure if not made at once, believing our position and force would be discovered by the enemy on the morrow, and then, announcing that the expedition was

under my command, informed me you would return to Petersburg. The balance of the night was mostly passed in placing the different batteries in the shelter of the woods, to prevent them being seen by reconnoissances from the balloons of the enemy; thus it was four, A. M., before the men or horses got any rest. The better to secure success, I found it necessary to order the particular part that each command was to perform; and directed that the officers of artillery, who were to command guns, should be sent to pass over the intricate roads, the difficult grounds, and examine the sites selected for the batteries and erect stakes to direct the fire of their guns at night, according to the position of the enemy. The ground not admitting the advantageous use of all the guns, some seventy in number, it was deemed best to leave the lighter ones behind. All being in readiness, and finding the enemy had not discovered us from reconnoissances in their balloon, at four, P. M., Colonel Brown proceeded to Maycock's farm, opposite Westover, with twelve guns; Colonel Coleman followed to Coggin's Point, with eight twelve-pounder howitzers; Major Nelson, with eight guns, to a position on his left, higher up the bank of the river; Colonel Cutts, with eleven long-range guns, still above Major Nelson; and Captains Dabney and Milledge were, each with two siege guns, to take position a fourth of a mile below the dwelling of Mr. Ruffin, making forty-three guns in all. As night approached, thousands of lights from the shipping and their tents disclosed the objects for attack. The guns were silently conducted over the difficult ground and winding roads, and before twelve all the guns were in position, (except two siege guns under charge of Captain Milledge,) awaiting action. Silence as profound as the darkness of the night reigned in the enemy's camp. At a signal, the thunder of over forty guns startled them from their midnight slumbers. From the screams, scenes of wild confusion must have followed, as sailors rushed on the decks of their vessels and soldiers fled from their tents in midnight darkness, amidst bursting shells, falling fast around them. The gunboats soon returned the fire, and in about fifteen or twenty minutes a rapid fire was opened on us from their land batteries, but without any damage, many of the shots passing over the whole length of the point or peninsula. The red glare of the fire of so many guns and exploding shells, on such a night, is seldom witnessed. Gradually the firing on our part ceased, and the guns were withdrawn, under a heavy fire. The rain, the difficulty of seeing the roads at all, and the exposed position of the peninsula, induced us to leave the caissons behind, with the baggage wagons, and thus the number of rounds to be fired was limited; over a thousand were fired on our part. What damage we inflicted on their vessels and their camps probably will never be made known, but considering that many of the guns were within from a thousand yards to a mile of the transports, and that behind them was one vast encampment, it could not have been otherwise than destructive. Subsequent information from deserters, and prisoners, and friends, place the men killed at over forty, and of their horses a greater number. Many transport steamers appeared in Norfolk greatly damaged shortly after the attack. Our loss

from the enemy was one man killed and two wounded. Three men were wounded by the careless and premature discharge of one of our guns, and two men slightly injured by the overturning of a gun in the road. I am indebted to General Pendleton and the officers under him for the careful and successful execution of the parts assigned them. Colonels Manning and Daniel's brigades, and Major Ross, of the second Georgia battalion, at Ruffin's house, protected the whole of the attack. General Ransom's brigade guarded the City Point road seven miles from Petersburg. Major A. Anderson, Lieutenant C. D. Myers, Captain J. A. Baker, Lieutenant Shingleur, Captain Overton and Lieutenant Storrs, members of my staff, rendered valuable services. Of the command, exposed to fire, all behaved well, except some privates belonging to the siege pieces. I enclose the report of General Pendleton.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. G. FRENCH,  
*Brigadier General.*

# BRIGADIER GENERAL PENDLETON'S REPORT OF HIS NIGHT ATTACK ON ENEMY'S SHIPPING.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,  
Near Petersburg, August 9, 1862. }

Brigadier General S. G. French,  
*Commanding Expedition :*

GENERAL: The report of our operations in attacking the enemy's shipping near Coggin's Point, on the night of the 31st July, which I now have the honor to submit, has been delayed by the absence, on other duty, of one of the officers from whom it was necessary to obtain some important facts.

General Lee, having intimated to me, on Monday 28th July, his wish to effect something against the enemy's boats by artillery on this side of James river, and my services having been tendered and accepted for conducting the expedition, I detailed from the reserve artillery under my command, near Richmond, a force deemed sufficient for the service, and placed it en route for Petersburg early on Teusday, 29th.

This force consisted of certain batteries and sections of batteries from Colonel Brown's artillery regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Cutt's and Major Nelson's artillery battalions, in all thirty-two field pieces and two heavy rifles or seige carriages, manned by Captain Dabney, with the men and horses of Captain Milledge's artillery company, from Major Richardson's battalion, to operate two other large rifles transported by railroad.

The command reached Petersburg by sunset, July 29th. General D. H. Hill commanding, having been reported to early in the day, by telegram, and later by a member of my staff sent forward for the purpose, we encamped that evening a short distance beyond the city on the Suffolk road. About midnight a dispatch from General Hill was brought me, indicating Coggin's Point as our destination, and directing me to have my command ready to march early the next morning. Meantime, Major Allen, of Claremont, arrived at Mr. Ware's, where I was lodging, and gave me information, deemed valuable, respecting the river and the shipping. This we proceeded, very early on the 30th, to submit to General Hill. We had, however, set out and preferred not halting for a conversation, and as Major Allen's duty lay in a different direction we could make but slight use of his knowledge.

The infantry force and several batteries brought by General Hill, and the artillery under my command, reached Perkinson's saw-mill, some seven miles below, by ten o'clock, and there halted. Within an hour or two you arrived, and we were informed that the fleet, &c., was to be attacked the approaching night, and that you were to superintend the expedition.

After some consultation it was determined to move the whole force forward about two miles, and there leave wagons and caissons. Colonel Brown and Lieutenant Colonel Coleman were detailed with certain batteries, to proceed to Wood's Point or to Claremont, if necessary and practicable. The other guns were to be taken by their proper commanders, when notified, to positions which adequate reconnaissance might indicate as best. Lieutenant Colonel Cutt's, Major Nelson and Captain Dabney were summoned to accompany yourself and myself, attended by one or two members of each staff, on this reconnaissance.

The tour proved laborious and perplexing. The enemy's shipping lay crowded before us; but positions were difficult of access, and a night approach required great care. In consequence, several hours of the night had passed before notice to advance could be given the batteries. In the haste and dark, a mistake occurred also respecting the force for Colonel Brown. This led to additional delay, and I became satisfied the movement was too much hurried and confused for success that night.

This judgement was concurred in by all my field officers, and I was happy to find it sanctioned by yourself, so soon as communicated. We therefore resolved to waive further proceeding, and report to General Hill, who kindly acquiesed, though much disappointed, and anticipating failure the next night from the probable disclosure of our movement to, and preparation for it by, the enemy the ensuing day.

By the time our force was replaced in position not to be seen from the enemy's balloon, when it should go up in the morning, day had dawned, and no rest or refreshment had yet been taken by men or horses.

In the early forenoon of the 31st, General Hill, having returned to his more comprehensive duties in Petersburg, and committed the expedition to us, you issued instructions for a systematic co-operation on the part of infantry and all, towards success that night, and I sketched and submitted to the artillery officers an exact programme for their proceeding.

Colonel Brown was to take to Major Cock's twelve guns, viz: four ten-pounder Parrott rifles, two Napoleons, four twelve-pounder howitzers and two six-pounders, under Captains Watson and Macon, and Lieutenants Thurmond and Pegram. He was to move by four, P. M., so as to approach his position about dusk.

Lieutenant Colonel Coleman was to take to Coggin's Point, on its right, eight twelve-pounder howitzers, under Captains Dance and Joseph Graham, and Lieutenant Griffin.

Major Nelson also to take to Coggin's Point, on its left, eight guns, viz: two ten-pounder Parratt rifles, two three-inch rifles, two twelve-pounder howitzers and two six-pounders, under Captains Huckstep and R. C. M. Page, and Lieutenant Woodruff.

Lieutenant Colonel Cutts, to a point considerably further on the left, eleven long-range guns, viz: eight Parrott rifles, two three-inch rifles and one Napoleon, under Captains Lane and Ross, and Lieutenant Robertson.

Captain Dabney (Major Lewis not having then arrived to command the heavy battery) to a position still further back on the left, near Mr Ruffin's residence, the four large rifles, to be operated by Captain Milledge and himself.

The field and company officers assigned each position, were directed to make, as carefully as possible, special examinations of their respective localities, and to adjust guide-posts for pointing their guns.

By six, P. M., the column was in motion, utmost silence being enjoined upon all. Dark came early and was very intense, by reason of general cloud and rain, yet through this and along the difficult route, the whole moved successfully, under the skillful guidance of patriotic citizens familiar with the region.

At midnight the signal gun was to fire. It was, however, half-past twelve before all was ready at Coggin's Point, where my own position had been chosen. Then, just after the cry from the enemy's sentries, "All's well!" the fire was ordered, and the whole line instantly pealed forth, in all the terribleness of midnight surprise. Lights were glimmering on ship-board along the entire shore opposite; yet in the river and the camp beyond, the stillness of sleep prevailed. To be compelled, resisting outrage, to meet our fellow men in deadly shock, cannot but be, under any circumstances, painful to a Christian mind. Especially is the trial glorious when we must be slain by, or slay, those who were so lately our countrymen, but who having trampled upon our rights, now seek to desolate our homes, appropriate our soil, kill off our young men, degrade our women, and subdue us into abject submission to their will, because we claim, under our own government, exemption from their insults and their control. And still more distressing to find it requisite towards contributing to avert the ruin threatened by malignant millions, thus to send the sleeping, however unprepared, to their great account. But painful as it is, just as it is, to snatch life from an assassin, whose arm is uplifted against our best beloved, most sacred is the duty; as such was this attack made, the issue being committed to unerring wisdom.

Such considerations imparted a mournful solemnity to the scene, where so many sudden flashes, through thick darkness, and multiplied reverberations startling profound stillness, constituted elements of grandeur rarely combined. Not to give the enemy time to bring to bear against us, in so exposed a position, many of his powerful guns from his boats or his land batteries, I had limited the nearest pieces to twenty rounds each, and those more remote on the right and left to thirty rounds. These were generally fired, making, probably, one thousand shots in all, and the pieces limbered and quietly taken to the rear.

When we had been firing about fifteen minutes, large shells began to be returned from the other side, some apparently from gunboats and some from the land; but with scarcely any damage to us. The two guns of Captain Dance, most of all exposed, having been taken down a ravine to the river's edge, within six or eight hundred yards of a number of vessels, were, under admirable management, withdrawn, without a scratch, after firing their allotted rounds. Nor was

injury received from the enemy at a single one of our field guns. A good many shells flew over us, and seemed well aimed along the general course we had to take. But they passed beyond, or fell short, or when the ground turned us to the right or left, they deviated the other way. These occurrences and the remarkable fact, that just when nearing the enemy, our batteries had to pass a rocky hill, likely to occasion great noise, the heaviest rain fell and drowned the rattling of wheels, &c., made upon many the salutary impression that a kind Providence favored our enterprise.

Forty-one, out of the forty-three guns enumerated, were brought into action. It being deemed imprudent to crowd more in the space, and the two heaviest, intended to act with Captain Dabney's long rifles, Captain Milledge having found it impracticable to get sufficiently early into position.

The casualties we suffered were as follows: At one of Captain Dabney's large guns, by an exploding shell of the enemy, one man killed and two wounded, and three horses slightly injured. In Captain R. C. M. Page's battery, by their own carelessness, from their own fire, three men were wounded; and at one of Lieutenant Thurmond's guns, by its overturning in the road, two men wounded. In all, one killed and seven wounded.

The amount of injury inflicted upon the enemy we could not accurately estimate. Though from the known range of our guns, the care taken in adjusting them, and the great number of objects at which to direct fire, less than serious damage could scarcely have resulted. Statements apparently reliable, have also reached us, derived from the admissions of the enemy, that more than twenty of their vessels were considerably injured, and thirty or forty men and fifty horses killed. How near this is to the truth I cannot judge.

Every officer behaved well, and nearly every man, and the entire enterprise was really a signal success.

Rarely has difficulty been overcome on so large a scale under so much risk, with so little to regret. This, while to be gratefully attributed to the favor of Divine Providence, should also be credited to the exemplary conduct of the officers and men engaged. Colonel Brown, Lieutenant Colonels Cutts and Coleman, and Major Nelson, who directed the operations of their respective commands, the company officers who skillfully seconded their efforts, the medical and other members of my staff, and the men who, with persistent care and courage, did the work, are well entitled to praise for what was achieved.

By dawn, August 1st, my whole command was far enough back to take a few hours' rest, well earned and much needed. When thus sufficiently refreshed to march again, we moved, in compliance with orders from yourself, to the neighborhood of Petersburg, where, awaiting another opportunity, we have since remained.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,  
Brig. General and Chief of Artillery.

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL HAMPTON OF OPERATIONS IN THE RECENT ADVANCE OF ENEMY.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE CAVALRY, }  
August 10, 1862. }

Major FITZHUGH, A. A. G.:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit, for the information of the Major General commanding, the following report of the operations of my brigade, on the recent advance of the enemy, together with the reports of the Colonels under my command:

At half-past twelve, A. M., August 5th, Colonel Young notified me that he had received information of the presence of the enemy in front of Colonel Baker, and that they were apparently advancing. I sent this courier immediately to General Toombs and despatched another to endeavor to procure accurate information as to the movements of the enemy. This latter returned before daylight, confirming fully the report of the first and bringing the additional information from Colonel Baker that the enemy were in strong force of all arms. This courier was sent forthwith to give his report to General Toombs also, and I then ordered out the reserves of Cobb's legion to proceed with them to the support of Colonel Baker; but as I was about to leave my quarters, having previously despatched a courier to Major General Longstreet, conveying all the information in my possession, I heard the enemy open fire on the artillery and infantry stationed at Malvern Hill. I rode at once to the quarters of General Toombs and communicated the intelligence to him, suggesting to him the propriety of reinforcing his troops on the hill. I told him that if he would take reinforcements to the hill, and would let me have some artillery, I would attack the enemy in the rear near Crew's house. This was agreed on, and proceeding with the Cobb legion and Moody's artillery, I gained the position from which General Magruder had attacked the enemy on the 1st July ultimo. On reaching this point, I found the enemy on the same ground occupied by him in the battle of the 1st of last month, whilst the troops which had been stationed on Malvern Hill were retreating. Fearing for my rear guard and having only three pieces of artillery, with two small squadrons of cavalry, I withdrew to our main lines. During that day I held the enemy in strict observance, but had no opportunity to strike at him. Our picket lines were established, and well maintained. On the 7th, I was ordered by General Lee to reconnoitre on the right flank of the enemy with my command. This was done as the infantry advanced in front. I proceeded through Gatewood farm to Carter's mill. The enemy had retreated and a few stragglers were fallen in with. My personal observation was confined to the right and centre of my line, as I was unable to leave these positions during the two days' operations. I must, therefore, refer you to the report of Colonel McGruder for information as to the occurrences on the left,

where he was stationed. I can confirm the reports of Colonels Baker and Young from my own personal knowledge of all the facts stated. I neglected to state that whilst consulting with General Toombs in the morning, a courier brought to me news of the attack on the hill and a request to the General from one of his officers there for reinforcements. I beg to call your attention to the very efficient manner in which Colonel Baker maintained his picket line, and to the timely information he furnished us as to the movements of the enemy. This information was always promptly communicated by Lieutenant Early and these officers both proved themselves watchful and energetic. The report of Lieutenant Colonel McGruder has not yet been sent in, though it has been called for. It shall be forwarded you as soon as it reaches me. Since the infantry have been withdrawn from the picket line the enemy have made constant demonstration against me. These have always been promptly met and our lines have been maintained. Of course the position cannot be held by cavalry alone against a serious attack, but orders have been given to hold it as long as possible.

I incline to the belief that the enemy are withdrawing and I strongly recommend a forced reconnaissance with infantry, artillery, and cavalry. This is entirely practicable. Referring you for details to the accompanying reports,

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

WADE HAMPTON,

*Brigadier General.*

**REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL HAMPTON OF OPERATIONS AFTER RECROSSING THE POTOMAC.**

**HEADQUARTERS HAMPTON'S BRIGADE, Oct. 21, 1862.**

To Major General Stuart:

**GENERAL:** The enclosed report of General R. E. Lee, in reference to the late advance of the enemy on Martinsburg, has just met my eye, and I beg most respectfully to call your attention, and, through you, that of the General commanding, to the injustice which, unintentionally no doubt, has been done to the brigade I have the honor to command. The report says: "General Hampton's brigade had retired through Martinsburg on the Tuscarora road, when General Stuart arrived and made disposition to attack." This phraseology implies that the enemy had advanced on Martinsburg through my lines, and had driven in my brigade. The following statement will show that such was not the case. As you are aware, my line extended on the Potomac, from Black creek to the mouth of the Opequon. When General Lee joined me, upon consultation with Colonel Lee (who was in command of the brigade the day before the advance of the enemy) he said that if his pickets were driven in, he would make a stand at Williamston's cross roads, and, if forced to retire, would fall back to the stone bridge, which he would hold to the last extremity. On the morning of the 1st October, a courier from Colonel Lee informed me that the enemy were advancing on him, and, soon after, another courier notified me that Colonel Lee had fallen back to the cross roads. Expecting an attack upon my own picket line, I ordered my brigade to be ready to move, and I sent a few men from the provost guard toward the stone bridge to procure information of the movements of the enemy. In a short time they returned, and, to my great surprise, informed me that the enemy had crossed the bridge, and, in a few moments they appeared between me and the town, not more than six hundred yards from the latter. This forced me to recall my squadron, and to send the gun into town, the only position in which it was available. Placing my guns in position here, I ordered my wagons to go by the Romney road (as I had agreed with Colonel Lee to do) to Darksville. The first North Carolina, with two guns, was sent as an escort for the wagons and to hold the Winchester road, where the cross road intersected it, in case I should have to fall back. After my wagons had all got off, and messages had been sent to bring in my pickets, (all of whom had to retire by Hedgesville, as the enemy had got completely in their rear,) I withdrew my two remaining guns from the town, as I was very unwilling to draw the fire of the enemy upon the village, and placed them in position on a hill commanding both the Winchester and Tuscarora and Romney roads, and between the two. All of the brigade, except the first North Carolina regiment and the squadrons on picket, was drawn up as a support to their guns on the Tuscarora road, in advance of the camp of the North Carolina

and South Carolina regiments. From this position, I wrote to Colonel Lee telling him that we could retake the town, and the letter was given to one of his pickets, who failed to send it to the Colonel. As soon as I found the enemy retiring, I ordered up my command before receiving any order from yourself. My brigade went with Lee's to Flag's mill, and were then sent to re-establish their picket line, while a section of my artillery proceeded to within two miles of Shepherdstown, the last position from which Lee's artillery fired that night. This is a full statement of this affair as far as my brigade was concerned, and I beg to refer you to Colonel Lee, who will, I am sure, corroborate the facts as far as they relate to his brigade. I do not attach any blame to him that the positions he had designated to hold were not held, nor that his pickets did not give me any notice of the approach of the enemy. I simply state the facts that none of my pickets were driven in. That the enemy did not advance on any road under my supervision; and that they were within six hundred yards of the edge of the town, on the Shepherdstown road, before I was aware of their proximity. I then took position in front of my camp, and held it till my pickets were withdrawn. In justice to my brigade, I beg that you will transmit this statement to the General commanding. I did not make a report to you because, though I had been placed in a most critical position by the failure of Colonel Lee's picket's to communicate with me, still I met with no loss, and I did not desire to appear to attach any blame to Colonel Lee. This was especially the case after he had so frankly, in your presence, apologized to me for the failure of the plan of operations we had agreed on. Nor do I wish to detract from any commendation you have bestowed on Lee's brigade. My only object is to vindicate my own. Hoping that you will excuse the minuteness of my statement.

I am, General, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

WADE HAMPTON,

*Brigadier General.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL B. T. JOHNSON OF SECOND VIRGINIA BRIGADE.

Captain TALIAFERRO, *A. A. G.*,

*Taliaferro's Division, Army of the Valley:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that on Wednesday, August 27th, 1862, my command, the second brigade of this division, consisting of the twenty first, forty-second and forty-eighth Virginia and first Virginia battalion, with two batteries, marched from Manassas Junction about dark. The forty-eighth and forty-second Virginia had been, during the day, on picket on the Blackburn's Ford and Union Mill road. Marching by the Sudley road and passing the Chinn house, I reached the Warrenton road after midnight. I was then ordered by Brigadier General Taliaferro, commanding division, to proceed with my command down the Warrenton road, towards Gainesville, and picket and hold it and a road cutting it at Groveton at right angles, and which led from the Junction also to Sudley ford. I did so, holding Groveton as my reserve, throwing out pickets towards Manassas and down the turnpike, and pushing Captain George R. Gaither's troop, first Virginia cavalry, which I found on picket before I reached the position, some half a mile in front of me, with videttes still further before him. Shortly after daylight, he reported to me a cavalry force advancing from Gainesville, and soon after himself brought in a courier, captured by him, bearing a despatch from Major General McDowell to Major General Sigel. I immediately sent the courier and despatch to Brigadier General Taliaferro and Major General Jackson, and a short time after ordered Captain Gaither to report to Major General Jackson in person the contents of the despatch. Executing this order in the direction of Manassas, he was taken prisoner, and I lost his services, which were valuable. The intercepted despatch was an order from Major General McDowell to Major General Sigel and Brigadier General Reynolds, conveying the order of attack on Manassas Junction. Sigel was ordered to march on that point from Gainesville, with his right resting on the Manassas Gap railroad; Reynolds, moving also from Gainesville, to keep his left on the Warrenton road; and another division was ordered to move in support of the two, in rear, *en echelon* to each. Finding, then, I should have a superior force on me in a short time, I ordered Major John Seddon, first Virginia battalion, with his command and the forty-eighth Virginia, to take position on the road from Groveton toward Manassas, to guard against any flank movement on me from thence. The forty-second Virginia, Captain Penn, I threw forward as skirmishers, and held the twenty-first, Captain Witcher, to support the only two pieces of rifled artillery I had, which had been placed under my command by Colonel Brien, first Virginia cavalry. My own being smooth bore, I held it in reserve and in rear. Riding forward, I got on a high hill, to the right of the road,

and discovered the enemy in force, their skirmishers pushing rapidly on me. I instantly brought up the rifled pieces and forty-eighth, and, after a race, beat the enemy to the hill and opened on them, driving in their cavalry and skirmishers; but finding them place several guns in position, which they served with rapidity and accuracy, and pressing their infantry on me, I called in Major Seddon, and, with his reinforcement, determined to hold the hill, which was the key of the surrounding country. This I did, and drove off the advance down the Warrenton road; but, after some time, discovered them on my extreme left towards Manassas. Thus obliged to retire, I did so, towards Groveton, where I received an order from Brigadier General Taliaferro to report to him. Before I could do so, Major General Stuart ordered me to take position in a skirt of woods near by, and to the west. In the afternoon, I discovered the enemy's train passing to the left, towards Manassas, and opened upon it with two pieces very briskly. Further progress was stopped for them over that road. Being ordered, then, by Major General Jackson to report to my command, I started in that direction, but being pushed by the enemy's cavalry and skirmishers, I ordered the forty-eighth Virginia, Lieutenant V. Dabney, to drive them back, which was done quickly and gallantly.

That night, by General Jackson's order, I held the crossing of the Sudley road over the old railroad, and at daylight, being so ordered, rejoined the division, then commanded by Brigadier General Starke, Brigadier General Taliaferro having been wounded the previous evening. By him I was ordered to clear the woods we had just left, but into which the enemy's skirmishers had lodged. I directed Lieutenant Dabney, with the forty-eighth to do so, and then sent Captain Witcher, with the twenty-first to support him. They did their work at once and well. Our line of battle was then formed, facing the east, parallel to the Warrenton road, fronting it, and to the left of it; Ewell's division being on my left and Starke's brigade on my right. This place was not attacked until the afternoon. Our line was on the crest of a ridge covered with timber, and in front of the wood, in the open ground, was the embankment in one place and the cut in another, according as the ground lay, of an unfinished railroad. In the afternoon, the enemy carried the embankment to my left, and while I was trying to rally some men, not of my command, came close on me and between my command and the railroad cut. The men were lying down at the time in ranks, concealed; and, unexpected, I ordered a charge, and, with a yell, the second brigade went through them, shattering, breaking and routing them. The struggle was brief, but not a man faltered, and, with closed ranks, their rush was irresistible. They drove the enemy into the railroad cut and out of it. Just then Brigadier General Starke came gallantly heading the fourth brigade, and together we went after the flying foe. In a skirt of woods in front a battery was attempting to cover their rally, but Major Seddon and the Irish battalion wrested a three-inch rifle gun from them and bore it off. The fourth brigade secured another. The forty-second is entitled to the credit of capturing the colors of the

attacking brigade, which was "Sickles' Excelsior," having run over them after the enemy. The flag was taken up by the fourth brigade, and I do not claim it for the forty-second. Returning to the first position, we held it that night.

The next day, Saturday, the 30th, the division was formed on the same ground, but in order—third, first, second, fourth, placing my brigade on precisely the same ground it held on Friday. During the morning, the enemy sullenly felt along our line at long range, with his artillery, occasionally making feints with infantry, which did not seem to be pressed with vigor, and it was difficult to understand whether he was whipped or not. He however took possession of Groveton, from which Hood had driven him, and the skirt of woods which we had carried, where Major Seddon captured the gun the preceding evening. I could see that some movements were being made in that skirt of woods as early as eight o'clock, A. M., and during the day had frequent reports made to me to that effect. I therefore placed the forty-second, Captain Penn, in the railroad cut; and having assigned Captain Goldsborough, of the late first Maryland, my old command, who was serving with me as a volunteer, to the forty-eighth, as adjutant, put it in a copse which ran at right angles from the railroad, and the right of the forty-second, and fronted the woods in which the enemy were obviously making some movement. These positions overlooked the enemy everywhere, and, being very strong, were the ones I had determined to take and hold, if attacked. The twenty-first and Irish battalion I held in reserve, concealed in the woods on the hill, carefully instructing the officers, at the order, to charge without firing a shot.

About four, P. M., the movements of the enemy were suddenly developed in a decided manner. They stormed my position, deploying in the woods in brigade front, and then charging in a run, line after line, brigade after brigade, up the hill, on the thicket held by the forty-eighth, and the railroad cut occupied by the forty-second. But as they uncovered from the wood in which they had been massing during the whole day, I ordered the twenty-first and Irish battalion to charge, which they did with empty guns. I halted them under the shelter of the cut, where, with the forty-second, they held back the enormous force pressing up the hill on them. Lieutenant Dabney had unfortunately been wounded early in the day, and Captain Goldsborough, whom I had ordered to take command, had fallen by my side in the charge, leaving the forty-eighth without a superior officer with them, and they were, consequently, soon driven out by the tremendous odds against them. But for a short time the three regiments above named, viz: the forty-second, twenty-first and Irish battalion by themselves, breasted the storm, driving back certainly twenty (20) times their number. As soon as their position was known, the rest of the division came to their support, except the third brigade, which, under Colonel Taliaferro, was employed in whipping a division by itself. Before the railroad cut the fight was most obstinate. I saw a Federal flag hold its position for half an hour, within ten yards of a flag of one of the regiments in the cut, and go down six or eight times;

and after the fight, a hundred dead were lying twenty yards from the cut, some of them within twenty feet of it. The men fought until their ammunition was exhausted, and then threw stones. Lieutenant Lewis Randolph, of the battalion, killed one with a stone, and I saw him afterwards with his skull fractured. Dr. Richard P. Johnson, on my volunteer staff, having no arms of any kind, was obliged to have recourse to this means of offence from the beginning. As line after line surged up the hill time after time, led up by their officers, they were dashed back on one another, until the whole field was covered with a confused mass of straggling, running, routed Yankees. They failed to take the cut. The battle of the left wing of the army was over, and the whole of Jackson's corps advanced about a mile, its right on the Warrenton road, toward the stone bridge, facing Bull Run. I was not further engaged that day.

On Sunday, we crossed Sudley ford, and that night bivouacked on the Aldie road, and on Monday, September 1st, was ordered by Brigadier General Starke to hold the road leading from Chantilly to Centreville. Taking a position about two miles and a half from Centreville, I threw out the twenty-first Virginia, Captain Witcher, holding half of it in reserve, and advancing the residue as skirmishers. They exchanged shots all day with the enemy's cavalry, who dismounted and engaged them. Having only orders to observe the large force which was apparent at Centreville, and hold it from attacking our flank, which was moving up towards Germantown, Captain Witcher was contented to drive back the dismounted cavalry. After sundown, Brigadier General Drayton relieved me, and I rejoined the division.

Tuesday morning, September 2d, the column marched beyond Dranesville, and bivouacked. Wednesday and Thursday, it passed through Leesburg. Friday, it crossed the Potemac at White's ford, Montgomery county, Maryland, and thence forded the Monocacy at the old glass works, and camped by the Three Springs, near Buck-eye's town. On Saturday, it entered Frederick, and encamped on Norman's, to the north. Being ordered by General Starke to take command of the city with the brigade, I put it in camp in the barrack's enclosure, and ordered Lieutenant Lewis Randolph, of the battalion, on duty, as provost marshal. Directly after I was relieved from the brigade, Brigadier General J. R. Jones, its commander, having reported for duty. My brief connection with the brigade prevents me doing justice, individually, to the officers and men, a few of whom I was acquainted with personally. Major Seddon, first Virginia battalion, distinguished himself by his gallantry. On Saturday, having been quite ill, I advised him to go to the rear, and he declining, I ordered him to do so. On his way back, he fell in with General Pender's brigade, and headed it with General Pender during the fight. Captain Henderson, who succeeded him in command of the battalion; Captain Witcher, of the twenty-first; Captain Penn, of the forty-second; Lieut. V. Dabney, of the forty-eighth, all behaved as became good soldiers and gallant gentlemen. Lieutenant Dunn, A. A. General, was conspicuous in the performance of duty on the march and in battle. Captain Goldsborough and Lieutenant Booth,

my volunteer aids, were both wounded, and Dr. R. J. Johnson, also volunteer aid, had his horse twice shot on two different days. As I cannot name all who merit notice, not knowing their names, I can only say, that every officer and man in the brigade may well be proud of the manner in which each and every one conducted himself in the second battle of Manassas. I cannot forbear giving but scant justice to a gallant soldier, now no more. It was my fortune during the two days of the battle, during which he commanded the division, to be thrown constantly in contact with Brigadier General Starke. The buoyant dash with which he led his brigade into a most withering fire on Friday, though then in command of the division, the force he showed in the handling of this command, the coolness and judgment which distinguished him in action, made him, to me, a marked man, and I regretted his early death as a great loss to the army and the cause.

Your obedient servant,  
BRADLEY T. JOHNSON,  
*Colonel commanding 2d Virginia Brigade.*

# REPORT BRIGALIER TRIMBLE OF BATTLE OF HAZEL RIVER.

MORSE'S NECK, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, }  
January 30, 1863. }

Lieutenant General T. J. JACKSON,

*Commanding Second Army Corps on Rappahannock:*

GENERAL: In compliance with your order of this date, I furnish a report of the operations of my (seventh) brigade on the 22d August, 1862, in the battle of Hazel River. About ten o'clock, A. M., that day, I was left with orders from General R. S. Ewell, to station my brigade about a mile distant from the ford on Hazel River, near Wellford's mill, where the army crossed. The object of my force was to protect the flank of our wagon train from the enemy, who had moved up the north side of the Rappahannock almost simultaneously with our forces. About twelve, M., I received information that the enemy (Sigel's division) had thrown a force across the river to our side, and soon after learned that they had surprised our wagon train and captured some ambulances and mules. I immediately sent the twenty-first Georgia regiment, Captain Glover, to recover the property and drive off the enemy. In this he was successful, and besides captured some prisoners, from whom I received some important information, viz: that the enemy had thrown one, if not two, brigades across the river, to annoy us on the march. As General Ewell's division was five or six miles in advance and General Longstreet's division the same distance in the rear, I deemed it prudent to hold my brigade on the defensive, and endeavor to protect the trains. I accordingly disposed the three regiments (my only force) so as best to effect this object. The enemy made no further attempts to molest us. During the afternoon, by reconnoissance and verbal information, I ascertained the position of the forces thrown across the river, and decided to attack them as soon as the advance of General Longstreet (Hood's brigade) should reach my position to support me, if necessary. At four, P. M., General Hood arrived, when I directed him, as the troops came up, to occupy my position, and hold them in readiness to support me should I send for aid. I at once advanced towards the enemy's position, skirmishers well in front, who soon met those of the enemy and drove them back on their main force, which I noticed was placed in such a position as permitted them to be flanked on the right and left by a surprise. The fifteenth Alabama, Major Louther, and twenty-first Georgia, Captain Glover, were ordered on the enemy's flank, by a slight detour, unobserved, while the twenty-first North Carolina, Lieutenant Colonel Fulton, advanced under my immediate command in the centre. After a sharp conflict with the twenty-first North Carolina, the enemy were driven back to the hills on the river, where they made another stand. At this point, supported by their artillery on the north side of the river, they made an effort, by blowing of trumpets, beating of

drums and cheers, to encourage their men to charge. The command was given, "Drive them at the point of the bayonet." Our men boldly advanced, with enthusiastic cheers, and drove the opposing forces into the river and across it, in great disorder to seek protection in General Sigel's camp and under his guns, which opened a furious discharge against us without serious injury. Our men pursued them closely and slaughtered great numbers as they waded the river or climbed up the opposite bank. The water was literally covered with the dead and wounded. Over one hundred prisoners were captured, and among the dead was found one colonel. Deeming it useless, in the absence of my artillery, to continue the contest longer, after half an hour's occupation of the battle-ground, I retired, unmolested, and encamped a mile and a half distant, leaving General Hood, who had taken no part in the contest, to look after the enemy. The battle lasted two hours, during which time we drove the enemy one mile. I can speak with pride and admiration of the admirable spirit displayed by the brigade, which went into action with that determination and valor which had often before aided to secure victory. It is specially due to Lieutenant Colonel Fulton, of the twenty-first North Carolina, that I should mention the conspicuous gallantry with which he took the colors and led his regiment to the charge; and to the important services rendered by Captain W. C. Hall, A. A. G., and Lieutenant W. D. McKim, aid, in assisting me to dispose the regiments for the attack. I think proper, also, to name Frank Champion, my mounted orderly, for the display of intelligence and activity in the field in carrying orders and obtaining information. In this sharp encounter the enemy certainly outnumbered our forces two or three to one, and certainly lost ten to one in their killed and wounded and prisoners. Our loss in killed and wounded was forty-seven, among them no field officers or captains.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. R. TRIMBLE,  
*Brigadier General.*

# REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL TRIMBLE OF CAPTURE OF MANASSAS JUNCTION.

CHARLOTTESVILLE, January 6, 1863.

Lieutenant General T. J. JACKSON:

GENERAL: In compliance with your request, I report the operations of my brigade in the execution of your order to me on the evening of the 26th of August last to capture Manassas Junction:

Your order was received about nine o'clock, that night, after a long and fatiguing march of the army from Salem to Bristoe Station. I immediately put two regiments in motion, the twenty-first North Carolina, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Fulton, and the twenty-first Georgia, commanded by Major Glover, in all about five hundred men, (my third regiment was left at Bristoe,) and proceeded with them to within one mile and a half of Manassas, where we halted in consequence of the brisk discharge of fire-arms in our front, caused by an encounter of a part of General Stuart's cavalry with a party of the enemy's pickets. I informed General Stuart of my intention to attack Manassas Junction, and requested his aid with the cavalry which he had then with him. Throwing forward skirmishers in advance of the regiments, I proceeded cautiously in order of battle, the night being very dark. We met with no opposition until within half a mile of the cluster of houses at the Junction, when discharges of artillery rapidly repeated, were delivered from the enemy's batteries, in the direction of our force. From a want of knowledge of our position, this fire did us but little injury. I then disposed of one regiment on the north side of the railroad and the other on the south side; my aid, Lieutenant McKim, being posted on the track with directions to regulate the advance of the Georgia regiment by that of the North Carolina, which latter advanced under my immediate orders. These dispositions being made, I gave orders to advance rapidly, skirmishers being well in front, until we had approached within one hundred yards of the batteries, which continued their fire, one on the north and the other on the south of the railroad. Here I halted and issued watchwords and responses, that our men might recognize each other in case of a mingled encounter with the enemy. The position of the batteries on either side of the railroad having been ascertained pretty accurately, the word was given, "Charge!" when both regiments advanced rapidly and firmly, and in five minutes both batteries were carried at the point of the bayonet. Sending an officer to the north side of the railroad to ascertain the success of the Georgia regiment, he could not immediately find them and cried out, "Helloa, Georgia, where are you?" The reply was "Here! all right! we have taken a battery." "So have we," was the response, whereupon cheers rent the air.

As soon as an examination could be made, it was ascertained that each of the two batteries contained four field pieces, horses, equipments and ammunition complete. Over three hundred prisoners were

taken, an immense quantity of commissary and quartermaster's stores, and a large train loaded with promiscuous army supplies, just arrived from Alexandria, and about two hundred horses, independent of those belonging to the artillery. Over two hundred negroes were also recaptured. In this successful issue of the night's work I had no assistance from artillery or from any part of General Stuart's cavalry, a regiment of which arrived some time after the attack was made, and commenced an indiscriminate plunder of horses. General Stuart himself did not arrive until seven or eight o'clock in the morning.

As I had ascertained that a large force of the enemy was at Centreville and another force hourly expected by railroad from Alexandria, and as at any moment an attempt might be made to retake the place, I kept the two regiments under arms all night. Reporting our success at General Jackson's headquarters at Bristoe, I asked that reinforcements should be sent to me without delay; these arrived soon after daybreak, and were disposed so as to repel any attack of the enemy. Guards were placed over the buildings and cars containing public stores, and no depredations whatever were committed by the men of my regiments, who were continued under arms the whole of the night and all the next day without relief. It was with extreme mortification that, in reporting to General A. P. Hill for orders, about ten o'clock, I witnessed an indiscriminate plunder of the public stores, cars and sutler's houses by the army which had just arrived, in which General Hill's division was conspicuous, setting at defiance the guards I had placed over the stores.

Before concluding this report I must, in justice to the officers and men of the two regiments, express the high admiration I entertain for the good conduct and gallantry which they displayed throughout the whole affair. When, under the exhaustion of a long march, they were told that Manassas was to be captured that night, every man set out with cheerful alacrity to perform the service, and when ordered to charge the batteries, that act was done with a coolness and intrepidity seldom surpassed; especially as they could not know what numbers were opposed to them, and, in the night, from what direction the danger would come. The force of my two regiments was less than five hundred men, the number of the enemy captured was about three hundred; but their whole force could not be ascertained.

Our loss was killed, none; wounded, fifteen men. The loss of the enemy unknown.

As I have had frequent occasion before to speak in high commendation of the gallantry of Lieutenant W. D. McKim, my aid-de-camp, so on this occasion, as the only member of my staff present, I take pleasure in acknowledging the value of his services and his judgment and coolness in so trying an emergency.

I have the honor to be very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. R. TRIMBLE, *Brigadier General.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL FORNO OF HAYS' BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH LOUISIANA VOLUNTEERS,  
Camp near Port Royal, Va., January 2, 1863. }

GENERAL: Hays' brigade, under my command, arrived at Bristoe Station, on the Orange and Alexandria railroad, at six o'clock, P. M., August 26, 1862, and was ordered to attack and destroy the railroad trains then approaching the station, they being supposed to contain troops. The duty was promptly performed, and the brigade laid on their arms until daylight on the 27th, at which time I made a reconnoisance to the front in force, when, finding the enemy embarking their troops, attacked them with artillery. After doing some damage, the enemy succeeded in getting their train off. I then returned, leaving the sixth Louisiana regiment, Colonel Strong, on picket two miles in advance; the eighth Louisiana regiment, Major Lewis, one mile nearer the main line, with orders to Colonel Strong, should the enemy advance, to skirmish to the rear with the eighth, who were directed to destroy the railroad bridge and as much of the track as possible, and to retire, in good order, under cover of our artillery. This duty was performed to my entire satisfaction, these two regiments successfully repulsing two brigades of the enemy until their ammunition was expended, when I ordered up the fifth regiment, Major B. Menger commanding, to support them; when, after a few discharges from the latter regiment, the whole retired in good order, as if on parade.

One regiment from General Lawton's brigade, with one piece of artillery, supported the left of my line, and did good service in repelling an attempt of the enemy to flank us. As soon as our artillery got into position, the brigade was ordered to fall back to Manassas.

Our loss in killed and wounded was small, that of the enemy heavy. Fifth, sixth and eighth Louisiana, and Lawton's brigade, nineteen killed and thirty-one wounded. Enemy's loss, eighty killed and two hundred wounded, many of whom were officers of rank, colonels and other officers. The information as to the loss on both sides I obtained from Assistant Surgeon Strickler, of the fifth Louisiana regiment, he being left in charge of our wounded. The surgeon also informed me that, in consequence of the total destruction of the long bridge, the enemy were compelled to burn a large amount of stores, railroad cars, &c., &c. After twelve o'clock at night of the 27th, the brigade was put in motion, with orders to follow General Early; but, owing to the darkness, I was unable to find him. At daylight, on the morning of the 28th, I crossed Bull Run bridge and joined the division. Afterwards was ordered to report to General Early, and, with his brigade, support General Taliaferro, but did not engage. On the morning of the 29th, still under command of General Early, occupied the right of our line until the arrival of General Longstreet, when we rejoined our division in the centre. At half past three, P. M., 29th, was

ordered to advance my brigade by General Jackson, and soon after engaged the enemy, and, after driving them with great slaughter, retained the ground previously occupied by them. At about six o'clock, P. M., I was wounded and taken from the field, and turned over the command to Colonel Strong, sixth Louisiana.

Our loss was twenty-four killed and forty-one wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. FORNO,  
*Colonel Fifth Louisiana Regiment.*

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ROBERTSON OF SEC-  
OND BATTLE OF MANASSAS.

IN CAMP, NEAR GARYSBURG, N. C., }  
• October 12, 1862. }

*Assistant Adjutant General,  
Headquarters Cavalry Division, A. N. V.:*

SIR: In obedience to orders from your headquarters, early on the morning of the 20th of August, 1862, I crossed the Rapidan river at Tobacco creek ford with a portion of my brigade, consisting of the sixth, seventh and twelfth regiments of Virginia cavalry. Encountering the enemy's pickets between Stevensburg, in the county of Culpeper, and Brandy Station, on the Orange and Alexandria railroad, in force, a spirited attack by Colonel W. E. Jones, commanding first Virginia cavalry, was immediately made, driving in their outpost to their reserve. Heavy skirmishing on both sides then ensued, which lasted several hours, during which some of our men were wounded and a few of the enemy's horses killed. The enemy finally retired and was followed beyond Brandy Station, at which point a brigade of cavalry, under the command of the Federal General Bayard, was discovered drawn up in line of battle on a commanding hill, evidently determined to dispute our progress, and firing upon my advance column with long-range guns, (Burnside rifles.) As soon as practicable I ordered a charge and led the twelfth Virginia regiment, Colonel Harman, directly against the centre of their line, while the sixth and seventh were directed against their flank. The men charged gallantly, and after a brief hand to hand contest the enemy was routed, with the loss of several killed and a number wounded, capturing sixty-four prisoners, including several commissioned officers. Our loss was three killed and thirteen wounded. Colonel A. W. Harman and Captain L. F. Terrill were especially conspicuous during the engagement, as was also Major Von Borcke, aid-de-camp to Major General Stuart. Captain Redman Burke, attached to division headquarters, was wounded in the leg while charging gallantly with the twelfth Virginia regiment. My thanks are specially due to Colonel Jones for the admirable disposition made of his skirmishers and regiment during the engagement with the first main cavalry on picket duty.

Very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

B. H. ROBERTSON,  
*Brigadier General commanding Cavalry.*

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ROBERTSON OF  
EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO SECOND BATTLE OF MA-  
NASSAS.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE, GARYSBURG, N. C., }  
October 15, 1862. }

*Assistant Adjutant General,*

*Headquarters Cavalry Division, A. N. V.:*

SIR: On the afternoon of Saturday, August 30th, when the rout of the enemy had become general, I moved my entire brigade rapidly forward in order to press his left flank, and, if possible, to intercept his retreat in the direction of Centreville by way of the Stone bridge. Before reaching the Lewis ford, I observed a body of the enemy's cavalry approaching that point from the direction of Manassas. As there did not seem to be more than a small squadron, I ordered two companies of the second Virginia cavalry, Colonel Munford, to move forward and attack them. The order was promptly obeyed, when it was ascertained that an additional body of the enemy's cavalry, whose exact strength, owing to their position, I could not make out, were concealed under the crest of a hill, in their immediate front. I then ordered the entire second regiment to the support of the squadron already engaged, which had been driven back by largely superior numbers. Before this regiment had arrived in supporting distance of the squadron already mentioned, a full brigade of Federal cavalry, under the command of General Buford, had advanced to the top of the hill, where it was drawn up in line of battle. I moved forward immediately with the seventh and twelfth regiments of Virginia cavalry to reinforce Colonel Munford, leaving the sixth, Colonel Flournoy, in reserve. Without waiting, Colonel Munford made a brilliant and dashing charge with his regiment in line, engaging the enemy in a hand to hand contest, which lasted until the twelfth regiment had almost reached the scene of action, when the enemy commenced a general and precipitate retreat, being closely pursued by the second, twelfth, and a portion of the seventh regiment of Virginia cavalry. Our men followed beyond Lewis ford as far as the Centreville and Warrenton turnpike, when darkness put an end to the pursuit. A number of the enemy's dead were left upon the field. Colonel Broadhead, of the first Michigan, was mortally wounded in a hand to hand encounter with Lieutenant Harman, adjutant of the twelfth Virginia cavalry.

We captured over three hundred prisoners. Our loss, five killed and forty wounded.

The conduct of the field officers, as well as that of the men, of the second Virginia cavalry, surpassed all praise. Sergeant Leopold, of the twelfth Virginia cavalry, was in the thickest of the fight and

acted most gallantly during its continuance. He was wounded in three places.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

B. H. ROBERTSON,

*Brigadier General commanding Cavalry.*

REPORT OF COLONEL THOMAS, COMMANDING SECOND  
BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, LIGHT DIVISION, }  
October 26, 1862. }

Major R. C. MORGAN,

*Assistant Adjutant General, Light Division:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this brigade, on August 9th, 1862, was, by order of General Hill, turned from its line of march to the right of the road, and ordered to report to General Jackson; by the latter was placed in line, at rest, in the border of a wood; occupied this position a short time; then, by order of General Jackson, reported to General Hill. By him the brigade was placed in a wood, with orders to support General Early, who occupied, at that time, the right of our line. After a short time, by General Jackson, it was ordered to take position to the front and right. While this order was being executed, a brigade in front of the third was being forced back; one regiment, the fourteenth Georgia, was ordered to support it; the thirty-fifth, forty-fifth and forty-ninth Georgia regiments occupied the extreme right of our line, with orders to hold that position. The advance of the enemy was checked, and this position was held until nearly dark, when an advance was ordered. We moved some distance through the field, and bivouacked that night upon the ground previously occupied by the enemy.

On Thursday, August 28th, near Sudley ford, this brigade was held in reserve by order of General Hill; was under fire, but took no active part, and, after the enemy gave way, moved forward and bivouacked for the night on the field. Early on Friday, August 29th, the march was resumed, with directions to be prepared for an attack near the railroad. General Gregg's brigade meeting the enemy there, this brigade advanced to his right, the regiments being thrown in successively until all became engaged. The enemy were in strong position on the railroad. We at once advanced and drove them from it. This position we were ordered to hold, and, if possible, to avoid bringing on a general engagement, and held it against several attacks of the enemy in strong force during the day. In the afternoon, an overwhelming force attacked us, now almost without ammunition, in front and on the left flanks, and forced us back a short distance, when General Pender's brigade advanced promptly, and in fine order, to the assistance of the third, most of which joined General Pender, and, together, they drove back the enemy some distance beyond our previous position, which was held until night, the brigade bivouacking on the field.

On Saturday, August 30th, we were ordered to take position near the left of the line, which position was held during the day against repeated attacks of the enemy in strong force. Late in the afternoon, the third brigade, with General Pender's and General Archer's, was ordered to move forward in echelon; the enemy were driven back a

distance of a mile and-a-half, and the brigade bivouacked that night some distance to the rear of the enemy's position during the day.

On Monday, September 1st, near Germantown, the third was ordered to the support of General Gregg's brigade. After a sharp conflict with a body of the enemy, they were driven back, and the field held by our troops that night.

On September 14th and 15th, this brigade was ordered to support General Pender, then advancing upon Harper's Ferry. We were exposed to a heavy artillery fire, which caused some loss, but took no active part, and had moved within a short distance of the enemy's works when they surrendered.

At Shepherdstown, on September 20th, we were placed in position on the extreme right of the line, and ordered to advance towards the Potomac river. Moving forward, we took position commanding the ford, remained under a heavy artillery fire until night, and were then ordered back to camp.

Colonel R. W. Folsom, fourteenth Georgia regiment, Lieutenant Colonel J. R. Manning, forty-ninth Georgia regiment, and Major W. L. Grice, forty-fifth Georgia regiment, led their commands with a skill and gallantry highly honorable to them. Major Lewis Ginter, Lieutenant Wm. Norwood, of the staff, and Lieutenant John Tyler, acting aid-de-camp, performed their duties with gallantry on the field, and I take this occasion to acknowledge their valuable services to me.

With few exceptions, the officers and men of this command conducted themselves on the field in a manner highly honorable to them. Their courage, their cheerful obedience to orders, and their patient endurance of hardships, cannot be commended too highly.

I have the honor to be, Major, with highest respect,

Your obedient servant,

EDWARD L. THOMAS,

*Colonel commanding brigade.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ARCHER.

HEADQUARTERS ARCHER'S BRIGADE,  
Camp Gregg, near Fredericksburg, Va., March 1, 1863. }

Major R. C. MORGAN,

*A. A. General, A. P. Hill's Light Division:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to present the following report of the operations of my brigade, in the series of battles from Warrenton Springs ford to Shepherdstown, inclusive:

WARRENTON SPRINGS FORD, 24TH AUGUST, 1862.

My brigade remained in bivouac in reserve, in the edge of a wood, until the division was relieved by Hood's division about sunset, and although exposed to heavy shelling from the enemy's batteries, sustained no loss.

MANASSAS JUNCTION, 26TH AUGUST.

The morning of the 26th August, we arrived at Manassas Junction, when the division was halted in column of brigades to the left of the depot. My brigade was soon after ordered to advance in the direction of a retreating piece of artillery, and on proceeding about a half mile, came in sight of the enemy's infantry, which advanced a short distance in line, and then filed diagonally to the left, to a position near the hospital; General Jackson riding up at that time, with a battery, ordered me to support the battery. The enemy was soon broken and retreated towards the railroad bridge of Bull Run, closely followed by a battery and my brigade, as far as the nature of the ground would permit the artillery to follow. I then, by order of General Jackson, sent the nineteenth Georgia regiment in direct pursuit, while, with the other regiments, I proceeded down the railroad track, and soon became engaged with the enemy, who made a stand on the opposite side of Bull Run, at and near the railroad bridge. After about a half hour's firing, I crossed the Run and advanced about a half mile, when I was recalled from further pursuit. I then recrossed the Run and took a position on the hill commanding the bridge where I remained until about ten o'clock, P. M., when ordered to return to the Junction. My loss in this action was four killed and seventeen wounded. The regiments of my brigade were commanded as follows: First Tennessee, Colonel Turney; seventh Tennessee, Major Shepard; fourteenth Tennessee, Colonel Forbes; nineteenth Georgia, Captain L. Johnson, and fifth Alabama battalion, Captain Bush.

MANASSAS PLAINS, 28TH, 29TH AND 30TH AUGUST.

The 28th August, after marching through Centreville, up the Warrenton turnpike, and across Bull Run, my brigade was formed in line

on the right of and fronting a by-road, the direction of which was nearly parallel with the railroad cut. Branch's brigade was formed to my rear, and Field's on my right, and two batteries in the open field about three hundred yards in front.

About five o'clock, P. M., when the engagement commenced, I moved forward to support the batteries and remained under a heavy fire of shell and round shot from batteries to the front and left, but without sustaining any loss, until twilight, when the artillery fire ceased, and the whole division moved by the right flank into the railroad cut in the woods. The next morning, my brigade, with Braxton's battery, was posted on a hill on the extreme left of the division, with skirmishers thrown out to the front, and on the left flank. In this position it was not actively engaged, although it was somewhat annoyed by shell from batteries in front, but not in sight.

About three o'clock, P. M., I moved, by order of General Hill to the right, until my right rested on a road, which crosses the railroad at right angles, and remained there within supporting distance of other brigades of the division, which had been engaged during the day.

About four o'clock, P. M., during an interval of the assaults of the enemy General Pender sent his aid-de-camp requesting me to relieve him, and with the consent of General Hill, who was near me at the time, I immediately marched down and filed to the right into the railroad cut. As my leading files entered the railroad cut, I perceived the enemy advancing up it from the left, into the wood. Unwilling to commence the fight until my troops were in position, I did not call their attention to the enemy until half of my last regiment (Colonel Turney's first Tennessee) had entered the cut. I then pointed out the enemy on the left, and ordered that regiment to fire, which it did with great effect. The first fire of this regiment was instantly answered by a furious assault upon my whole front. At this time my own brigade was the only one in sight along the whole line, but for twenty minutes or more, it firmly and gallantly resisted the attack, and maintained its position until the troops came up on my right and left, in time to save me from being flanked. Soon after the arrival of these fresh troops, we charged and drove the enemy back several hundred yards, and then quietly returned to our position. In a few minutes fresh forces of the enemy arrived, and attacked us as vigorously as the first; they were as firmly resisted, and as gallantly repelled by another charge. At this second charge, many of my men were out of ammunition and charged with empty rifles. I did not average over two cartridges to the man. A third assault was met and repulsed in the same manner, my brigade charging upon the enemy with loud cheers, and driving them back with their empty rifles. It was after sunset when we resumed our position, and we lay upon our arms that night, with a strong picket in front to prevent surprise, replenished our ammunition during the night, and next morning changed places with Early's brigade, which had come in on our left the evening before, and in front of which a heavy skirmishing fire had been kept up all the morning. I relieved General Early's pickets with

one hundred and thirty men, under the brave Lieutenant Colonel George, of the first Tennessee regiment, who is always ready and anxious for the most daring service. The firing between my pickets and the enemy's skirmishers in the wood in front, became so rapid and continuous that fearing my men were wasting their ammunition, I sent my aid-de-camp, Lieut. O. H. Thomas, to ascertain what it meant, and to stop unnecessary firing. He traversed the whole line of pickets, exposed to the aim of the enemy's sharpshooters, and returned to me, reporting the constant fire of my men as necessary to maintain their ground. About —— o'clock, the troops on our extreme right having become hotly engaged, I received orders from General Hill to draw out my brigade, if not already engaged myself, and go to the support of the right. But while I was receiving the order, the enemy drove in my pickets and attacked my brigade. After returning his fire for ten or fifteen minutes, I charged across the railroad cut and drove him back into the woods. No one joined me in this advance except Colonel Smith's regiment of Early's brigade. General Early ordered him back, and my right regiment (Colonel Turney's) returned with him. My regiments obtained a fresh supply of ammunition from the cartridge-boxes of the dead Yankees, and resumed their position in the line. About five o'clock in the afternoon, an order came through General Pender, for a general advance. I advanced in line with General Pender's brigade, which formed on my right, through the wood into the open field beyond, where the enemy's battalions were posted. One battery, of six guns, was posted about three hundred yards distant from the point where we entered the open field, and a little to the left of the direction of my advance. I moved on in the same direction until about half that distance was passed, then swung round to the left, and marched in double-quick directly on the battery. My troops never for a moment faltered in their gallant charge, although exposed to the fire of two other batteries, besides the constant fire of the one we were charging, and of its infantry supports. The enemy stood to his guns, and continued to fire upon us until we were within seventy-five yards, when he abandoned three of his pieces, which fell into the hands of my brigade on the same spot where they had been served so bravely. General Pender overtook and captured the other three pieces. I left the pieces I had captured to be taken care of by whomsoever might come after me, and pushed on without halt against the infantry, who still made a feeble resistance in the edge of the wood. They did not await our coming, but had retreated out of sight by the time I had entered the wood.

Here I halted and reformed my brigade, and on moving forward again came up with General Pender's, which had entered the same wood to the right of my brigade and had halted for the same purpose. During the movement through the wood our brigades had crossed each other's directions, and I found myself on his right instead of on his left, as at the beginning. From this point our brigades moved on together to the Lewis house, where, a little after dark, we encountered, in the field to the left of the house, a body of the enemy's infantry, whose numbers we could not ascertain for the

darkness of the night, and with whom, after they had to our challenge answered "for the Union," we exchanged a single volley and then drove them from the field. Here we found a large hospital, filled with wounded, and during the night and next morning, captured about — prisoners and collected a large number of arms.

In this engagement my loss was seventeen killed and one hundred and ninety-six wounded. Amongst the former, Captain Bush, commanding the fifth Alabama battalion, killed 29th August; and, among the latter, Colonel W. A. Forbes, fourteenth Tennessee, mortally, on the 30th August, near the enemy's battery. Colonel Forbes died of his wounds a few days after.

The regiments of my brigade were commanded as follows, viz: First Tennessee, Colonel Turney; seventh Tennessee, Major Sheppard; fourteenth Tennessee, Colonel Forbes, until wounded, and then by Major Lockhart; nineteenth Georgia, Captain F. Johnson; and the fifth Alabama battalion on the 29th August by Captain Bush, and on the 30th August by Lieutenant Hooper.

Among the officers whose gallantry I especially noticed in this action were Lieutenant Colonel N. J. George, first Tennessee, and Lieutenant Charles Hooper, fifth Alabama; and, among the privates, Dr. J. H. G. Quarkett, of Captain \_\_\_\_\_'s company, Hampton legion, detailed as courier at my headquarters, who, after his horse was killed under him on Friday, fought with conspicuous valor, and private F. M. Barnes, of company A, fourteenth Tennessee regiment, who seized the colors from the hands of the wounded color-bearer and bore them bravely through the fight. My thanks are especially due to Aid-de-camp O. H. Thomas, the only officer of my staff present, my assistant adjutant general being absent sick since a few days after the battle of Cedar Run, for most gallant, intelligent and efficient service throughout the action.

#### Ox Hill, SEPTEMBER 1ST.

At the battle of Ox Hill my brigade was held in reserve, within supporting distance of Gregg's and Thomas' brigades. Night came on and the battle ceased before its support was needed.

#### HARPER'S FERRY, SEPTEMBER 14TH AND 15TH.

The evening of the 14th of September, my brigade, Field's and Pender's moved from a point on the railroad, by a by-road, toward the southern defences of Bolivar Heights. My skirmishers, on the right of the road, soon became engaged with those of the enemy. I immediately formed line of battle, my left resting on the road, and advanced steadily, driving the enemy's pickets before us, until I approached the crest of the hill, in full view and range of their batteries, when I filed out of the field into the woods on my right, in order to flank the enemy's guns, and continued to advance as rapidly as the rough ground and abattis would permit until it became dark, and I had become entangled in the almost impenetrable abattis, when

I halted, and we lay on our arms, within four hundred yards of the enemy's batteries, during the night.

The next morning, our artillery, which had been placed in position during the night, opened a destructive fire, and while I was struggling through the abattis, endeavoring to execute an order from General Hill to get in rear of the guns, the place surrendered. My loss in this action was one killed and twenty-two wounded.

The regiments of my brigade were commanded as follows, viz: First Tennessee, Colonel Turney; seventh Tennessee, Major Sheppard; fourteenth Tennessee, Lieutenant Colonel Lockhart; nineteenth Georgia, Major Neal; and fifth Alabama battalion, Captain Hooper.

### SHARPSBURG, 17TH SEPTEMBER.

The next morning, after the capture of Harper's Ferry, being too unwell for duty, I turned over the command of the brigade to Colonel Turney, first Tennessee, under whom, with the exception of the fifth Alabama, it marched to the battle-field of Sharpsburg, while I followed in an ambulance. This was a long and fatiguing march. Many of the men fell exhausted from the march by the way, so that when the four regiments of my brigade reached the battle-field, there were only three hundred and fifty men.

I resumed command just as the brigade was forming into line on the ground assigned to it by General Hill, on the extreme left of his division, but not in sight of any of its other brigades. Marching by flank, right in front, along the Sharpsburg road, the brigade was halted and faced to the right, forming line of battle faced by the rear rank. General Toombs was in line on the same road, about three hundred yards to my left, with open ground in front. In front of my position was a narrow corn-field, about one hundred yards wide, then a ploughed field about three hundred yards wide, on the opposite side of which was a stone fence. I moved forward under a scattering musket fire, through the tall corn, to the edge of the ploughed field, when I found only the right regiment (the fourteenth Tennessee) with me, the others having fallen back to the road. Some one had called out "fall back," which was mistaken for an order from me. I reformed the line as rapidly as possible, and again moved forward against the enemy, posted in force behind the stone fence. In passing over the short distance of two hundred and fifty yards from the corn-field, I lost nearly one-third of my already greatly reduced command, but it rushed forward alone, at double-quick, giving the enemy but little time to estimate its small numbers, and drove him from his strong position. By this time it was nearly sunset. General Branch's brigade came down about thirty minutes after I reached the wall and formed some thirty paces to my rear, where General Branch was killed, and Colonel Lane, assuming command of his brigade, moved it down to my left.

The next morning, about nine o'clock, the little strength with which I entered the fight being completely exhausted, I turned over

the command to Colonel Turney, reported to the Major General commanding, and left the field.

My brigade remained all that day in the same position where I had left it, and on the morning of the 19th of September, together with Gregg's and Branch's brigades, formed the rear guard of the army on its return to the Virginia shore.

My loss in this action was fifteen killed and ninety wounded; among the latter, Colonel McCowel, fourteenth Tennessee, severely, and Captain Flint, nineteenth Georgia, dangerously. The gallant conduct of both these officers attracted my attention, though when all who were engaged behaved so gallantly, it is difficult to select examples of particular merit.

Captain R. H. Archer, my assistant adjutant general, though not yet recovered from a severe illness, Lieutenant Thomas, aid, and Lieutenant Lemmon, ordnance officer, rendered brave and efficient assistance, and charged with the troops upon the enemy.

The regiments of the brigade were commanded as follows: First Tennessee, Colonel Turney; seventh Tennessee, Lieutenant Howard, adjutant; fourteenth Tennessee, Lieutenant Colonel Lockhart, and nineteenth Georgia by Major Neal.

#### SHEPHERDSTOWN, 22ND SEPTEMBER.

I resumed command of my brigade the evening of the 19th of September. On the morning of the 20th the division moved down to repel the enemy, who were crossing the Potomac at the Shepherdstown ferry. Line of battle was formed in a corn-field, about three-fourths of a mile back from the ferry. Pender's brigade moved forward in the direction of the ferry, and General Gregg's and Colonel Thomas' toward a point somewhere to the right. When General Pender had gotten about half-way to the ferry, General Hill directed me to take command of the three remaining brigades, (Field's, commanded by Colonel Brockenbrough, on the right; Lane's in the centre; and my own, under the senior Colonel Turney, on the left;) and advance to the support of Pender. I moved straight forward until within a few hundred yards of General Pender's brigade, when, on his sending me back information that the enemy was attempting to flank him on the left, I moved by flank to the left, and the left regiment of my brigade, as soon as it was unmasksed by Pender's, and each other regiment as soon as unmasksed by the preceding one, went in at double-quick. Colonel Lane's next, and then Field's, were in like manner, and with equal spirit, thrown forward on the enemy, killing many and driving the rest down the precipitous banks into the river.

The advance of my command was made under the heaviest artillery fire I have ever witnessed. Too much praise cannot be awarded to officers and men for their conduct. The little corps, in this, as in all the battles, has displayed as much valor as any troops in the field. Lieutenant Shelley, commanding that corps, displayed his usual gal-

Iantry, remaining under fire in the discharge of his duty, after a severe wound, until ordered off the field.

Captain Archer and Lieutenants Thomas and Lemmon, of my staff, rendered valuable and efficient assistance.

We held our position until dark, when we returned to camp and took up our line of march the same night toward Martinsburg.

The regiments were commanded as follows: First Tennessee, Colonel Turney; fourteenth Tennessee, Lieutenant Colonel Lockhart; seventh Tennessee, Lieutenant Howard, adjutant; nineteenth Georgia, Captain F. Johnson.

The loss of the brigade was six killed and forty-nine wounded.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. L. ARCHER,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL PENDER.

CAMP NEAR BUNKERSVILLE, V.A., }  
October 14, 1862. }

Lieutenant General T. J. JACKSON:

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the battle of Manassas Junction, the two days fighting at Manassas, the battles of Ox Hill, Harper's Ferry, Sharpsburg and Shepherdstown:

At Manassas Junction, while lying under cover from the occasional shots from the enemy's artillery, a brigade of their infantry was seen approaching, upon which our battery opened and they soon broke. My brigade being in rear and a little to the right of Generals Branch and Archer, I advanced so as to form an extension of their line of battle; but as they advanced upon the enemy, my brigade continued to move forward passing by the hospital near our advance redoubts and from thence, bearing a little to the right, in the direction where the railroad crosses Bull Run, going east; but when getting a little lower down than the railroad bridge, I changed direction so as to get possession of it. My skirmishers met the enemy at the river, and soon my whole brigade was engaged with the enemy across the river. I held this position for a while, and then threw two regiments across, preparatory to advancing further; but at the instigation of General Hill, withdrew, going lower down and crossing in order to cut the enemy off; but they had left before I could form on the east side of the river. Thus ended the fighting that day as far as I was concerned. My loss here was very slight.

On Friday morning, August 29th, my brigade was placed in supporting distance of Colonel Thomas, with orders to support him, where it remained until the afternoon. Finally it seeming to me to be the time to go to his assistance, I ordered my brigade forward, moving just to the right of Colonel Thomas. My men moved forward very gallantly, driving the enemy back across the railroad cut, through the woods on the opposite side and beyond their batteries in the adjoining field. A battery of the enemy, which was on the right of this wood, as we advanced, was flanked by my command and the cannoneers deserted their pieces. My line was halted on the edge of the field in front of the enemy, where I remained some little while, when being promised support from one of the staff in some of General Jackson's brigades, I crossed the field to attack the batteries. My men advanced well, receiving grape from their batteries; but support being waited for in vain, and seeing columns on my left and right manœuvring to flank me, I withdrew and marched back to the railroad cut, a little to the right of the position previously held by General Gregg. General Archer very kindly came forward and relieved me until I could march to the rear and rest my men. I was ordered to my extreme left in

reserve, and remained there until the next afternoon, when I was ordered to the right to support some one of General Jackson's brigades. I marched across the railroad embankment, moving obliquely to the left, until I had reached the large field again, in which the enemy were formed. Finding nothing special to do here, unless it was to attack an overwhelming force of the enemy supported very strongly by artillery, I withdrew, after receiving a heavy fire of grape and shell, getting back to the railroad cut about the point I had reached the evening before. I received orders from you to march in conjunction with other troops, particularly with those of General Archer, Colonels Thomas and Taliaferro. We all advanced together, taking the enemy, as it were, in echelon. We advanced steadily driving the enemy from the field, through the woods, taking a part of his battery in the field and the other part in the woods. While advancing through this field, we were exposed to a very heavy enfilade fire from the right. We continued our advance until after dark, when we came in contact with a body of the enemy, each man fired a volley; exchanging a few shots with the enemy, they ran and we rested for the night. Thus ended the Manassas fight with me.

My brigade, with the exception of a few skulkers, behaved with great gallantry on both of these days; they could not have behaved better. I cannot particularize at this distant day, but I well recollect that Major Cole, commanding twenty-second, behaved as he had always done, with great coolness and bravery. Also, Captain Stone, commanding sixteenth North Carolina, and Captain Ashford, commanding thirty-eighth North Carolina, the latter I had the misfortune to lose, in consequence of having received a wound in the leg.

In the afternoon, at Ox Hill, the head of the column coming in contact with the enemy, my brigade was for a few moments ordered under cover to be in support. Very soon I received orders from General Jackson, to go to the support of Colonel Brockenbrough, who reported he was hard pressed. I moved forward several hundred yards, when I came in rear of Colonel Brockenbrough's brigade, which caused mine to be thrown slightly out of order; two regiments bearing to the right, and thus getting separated from the others before I saw the trouble. The woods were quite thick; I however moved them on, bringing two to the support of Colonel Thomas, and the others to the assistance of General Branch, who was some distance to the right. My brigade was thus placed between the two above named brigades, with a short interval in my centre. Only the sixteenth and thirty-fourth North Carolina, on the right, were actively engaged. After reaching the next field in which the enemy were posted, no attempt was made to advance. My two regiments suffered very severely from direct and flank fire. This continued till about dark, I having previously caused my fire to cease. Colonel Riddick and Lieutenant Colonel Miller, thirty-fourth, both received wounds of which they died. Captain Stone, commanding sixteenth North Carolina, was also wounded.

At Harper's Ferry, my brigade was on the left of the division advancing from the point where the railroad and river meet. My brigade ad-

vanced within about sixty yards of the breastwork on the west front of Bolivar Heights, having that night exchanged shots with the enemy several times on their way there. Colonel Brewer,, next in command of the brigade, at this time, did himself great credit in the manner in which he handled it. Being absent when my brigade had reached this advanced position, on my return I ordered it to fall back a short distance, knowing no troops were in a supporting distance. The next morning, according to your order, I moved nearer, under cover, while our artillery played upon the enemy. The artillery ceasing, I, in obedience to previous orders, commenced the advance, but halted on the fire of our artillery opening again. I remained in this position, about one hundred and fifty yards distant from the above named breastwork, until after the surrender. Here, again, my officers and men behaved finely. At Sharpsburg, on Wednesday, September 16th, my brigade was on the right of the division, but not actually engaged, being under fire at long range of musketry. The next morning I was ordered to take position between Colonel Brockenbrough, on the left, and Colonel Lane, on my right. Here we were exposed all day to the enemy's sharpshooters, about six hundred yards distant. We remained in this position until late at night. At Shepherdstown, September 18, 1862, my brigade formed the left of our division. Advancing to within about three hundred yards, we were opened upon by the artillery from the opposite side of the river, which lasted all day at a most terrible rate, we came upon the infantry which had crossed, I had gone to the left to oppose this force, which was far superior to my own. Finding an effort made to flank me, I placed two regiments under cover from artillery, facing the river, and threw the others on my left flank so as to check this disposition of the enemy. Holding this position a short time, General Archer came up with three brigades to the support of the advanced line, and, upon seeing the flanking movement of the enemy, moved quickly to the left, when we advanced, driving them headlong into the river. After driving them from the plain, I sent the twenty-second North Carolina, under the gallant Major Cole, to the river bank to take them as they crossed, and this it did nobly. Others of my brigade had gone to the river; but finding them too much exposed, I called them back under a hill just overhanging the river. I called out those I had first left in this exposed position, leaving Major Cole with twenty men, who remained all day, the enemy being in heavy force in the canal on the opposite side. We were exposed all day to a tremendous fire of artillery, and also to the fire of their sharpshooters.

In conclusion, I would beg leave to bring to the notice of the Major General, the distinguished gallantry and efficiency of First Lieutenant R. A. Brewer, volunteer aid on my staff, whom I recommend for promotion. I would also beg leave to mention the names of a few whose actions entitle them to notice in the twenty-second. The list will be rather long, as it is upon it and its commanders that I usually call when any special and dangerous services are to be performed. Major C. C. Cole, commanding twenty-second, always acts with coolness, courage and skill ; Captain Odell, acting field officer, has inva-

riably behaved in a highly commendable manner; Captain George Graves, twenty-second, is mentioned for great gallantry, and for having remained with his company even while very sick; Second Lieutenant David Edwards, of the same regiment, at Manassas, with the help of two men, rushed ahead of the regiment and captured a piece of artillery, when it was on the eve of escaping, having a hand to hand engagement with the enemy. At Harper's Ferry he also acted in such a manner as to be particularly noticed. Sergeant Oxford, of company H, twenty-second, is mentioned for great daring and coolness at Shepherdstown; Sergeant Jesse H. Pinkerton is mentioned as always going ahead with the colors, and by his undaunted courage encouraging others. He is a young man and mentioned for promotion. Captain Stome commanded sixteenth North Carolina at Manassas Junction, the two days' fighting at Manassas, and at Ox Hill, until wounded; he behaved with great credit to himself. Lieutenant Colonel Stome, commanding sixteenth North Carolina, at Shepherdstown, Harper's Ferry and Sharpsburg, behaved with great gallantry. Second Lieutenant John Ford, of the same regiment, attracted my attention for his good demeanor in all the battles. Captain Ashford, commanding thirty-eighth North Carolina, at Manassas Junction and at Manassas, where he was wounded, has entitled himself to notice, as well as promotion, by his uniform bravery and good conduct. Lieutenants Brown and Robinson, also of the same regiment, have attracted my attention more than once, as also Adjutant McIntyre. There are others, too numerous to mention, who have escaped my memory at this late hour.

The list of casualties is as follows:

	Killed.	Wounded.
Near Warrenton Springs, August 20,	1	3
Manassas Junction, August 27,	1	3
Manassas, August 29 and 30,	12	145
Ox Hill, September 1,	12	46
Harper's Ferry, September 14 and 15,	2	20
Sharpsburg, September 17 and 18,	2	28
Shepherdstown, September 20,	8	55
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	38	300

Respectfully, &c.,

W. D. PENDER,  
Brigadier General.

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL LANE.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH BRIGADE, }  
November 14, 1862. }

Major R. C. MORGAN:

I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by this brigade in the various engagements from Cedar Run to Shepherdstown, inclusive. The report must necessarily be imperfect, as I was not in command of the brigade until after General Branch's fall, while most of the officers who commanded the different regiments are now absent and did not leave with the assistant adjutant general any account of the part taken in the various battles by their respective commands.

### CEDAR RUN, AUGUST 9TH.

After a long, rapid and weary march, we reached the battle-field at Cedar Run on the afternoon of the 9th August and took the position assigned us in line of battle by General Branch, in the woods, to the left of the road leading to the run, the right of the thirty-seventh resting on the road, the twenty-eighth, thirty-third, eighteenth and seventh being on its left. The twenty-eighth, thirty-third, eighteenth, and thirty-seventh moved cheerfully and irresistibly forward, and in perfect order, through the woods, upon the enemy, who had succeeded in flanking the first (Stonewall) brigade of General Jackson's division, which was rapidly giving way. The enemy's infantry were soon driven from the woods into the field beyond, and both infantry and cavalry were finally driven in great disorder from the scene of action. Many prisoners were taken, and many others deserted their colors and voluntarily surrendered themselves. After advancing in line beyond Cedar Run, we were half-wheeled to the right and marched across the road, through a field of corn and over an open field, until we reached the left of the forces under Brigadier General W. B. Taliaferro, where we were halted. It was then dark, and the infantry firing had ceased in all directions. During the entire engagement, the officers and men behaved as well as could be desired, notwithstanding the disorderly manner in which some of the troops we were ordered to support fell back.

Lieutenants Dunn and Coltraine, of the first Virginia (Irish) battalion, tendered me their services on the field, as they had been left without a command. I put them in charge of two companies of the twenty-eighth regiment, previously commanded by sergeants, and both discharged the duties assigned them only as brave men can do.

Our loss was twelve killed and eighty-eight wounded. I did not see the seventh regiment after we were ordered forward, and, as Colonel Haywood is absent, I will submit so much of Captain Turner's report as relates to the part taken by his regiment in this engagement. When the brigade moved forward, this regiment, for causes unknown

to the writer, did not move for *several minutes*, and consequently was considerably behind the brigade. We were finally ordered forward, but had not proceeded more than one hundred yards, when we were halted and the line dressed. By this time the brigade was entirely out of sight. We marched forward, and were *again* halted and the line dressed. We next wheeled to the right and marched into a road running nearly perpendicular to our original line of battle. Colonel Haywood, at this point, left the regiment to look for General Branch. The command then devolved upon Captain R. B. McRae, who, hearing heavy firing in our front, was just on the eve of ordering the regiment in that direction, when Colonel Haywood returned with orders from General Jackson. We then marched by the right flank to a wheat-field on the left of the Culpeper road, and formed on a hill in rear of and nearly perpendicular to the brigade, which was then at the bottom of the hill and in the same field. We marched forward at a double-quick to the support of General Taliaferro's division, which we found engaging a force of the enemy concealed in a corn-field. We fired several rounds, when the enemy broke and fled. We pursued them about three-quarters of a mile, taking about thirty prisoners, including two commissioned officers, when we were halted by command of General Taliaferro and marched to a point on the Culpeper road, where we joined the brigade and bivouacked for the night. The regiment sustained a loss of one man killed and one wounded in this action.

#### SHELLING ACROSS THE RAPPAHANNOCK, AUGUST 24TH.

On Sunday, August 24th, the eighteenth regiment was ordered to the support of McIntosh's battery. It lay during the whole of the day under a very heavy fire of the enemy's artillery, but sustained no loss. The twenty-eighth and thirty-third regiments were sent, under my command, to support Braxton's and Davidson's batteries, and to prevent, if possible, the destruction of the bridge across the Rappahannock near the Warrenton White Sulphur Springs. I threw a portion of the twenty-eighth far in advance into an open field, as far as practicable, to act as sharpshooters, and kept the rest of my command sheltered behind a hill. We had only three wounded, although we were under a very heavy shelling all that day. The remaining regiments were also under fire a part of the time.

#### MANASSAS JUNCTION, AUGUST 26TH.

We reached Manassas Junction the morning of the third day after the above shelling. The eighteenth regiment was detached to guard the captured stores, and the rest of the brigade was halted not far from the depot, near an earthwork to the left. While resting and awaiting an issue of Yankee rations, the enemy were seen advancing upon our position in line of battle. General Branch immediately put his command in motion, and moved by the flank to the left of a battery planted near the earthwork. Our artillery opened upon them,

soon put them to flight, and we pursued them rapidly, in a diagonal direction, across the field in rear of the hospital, and some distance beyond Bull Run, but never overtook the main body, as the Crenshaw battery advanced more rapidly than we did, and poured charge after charge of canister into their disordered ranks. We succeeded, however, in capturing a large number of prisoners.

MANASSAS PLAINS, AUGUST 28TH, 29TH AND 30TH.

Next day, after marching through Centreville and across Bull Run, on the stone bridge road, we were ordered from the road, to the right, into a piece of woods, fronting a large open field, in which one of our batteries was planted. As soon as the engagement was opened on our right, General Archer's brigade, which was in front of us, moved from the woods into the field, up to and to the right of the battery, where it was halted. Our brigade also moved a short distance into the field in the same direction, when the enemy opened a left enfilade artillery fire upon us. General Branch then ordered the twenty-eighth regiment to continue its march, and directed me to halt it in rear of General Archer, while he moved the rest of his command some distance to the left. The whole brigade, with no protection whatever, stood this artillery fire for several hours in the open field. The eighteenth at one time was ordered to the support of General Ewell, and was marched down, but, as the enemy had been driven from the field, it was not put in. None of us were actively engaged that day, and about nightfall the whole command was moved into the woods, into the railroad-cut, where we slept upon our arms. Next day we were marched a circuitous route and brought back into an open field, near the spot where we had spent the night. Capt. Crenshaw, who was in command of his battery, in front of us, notified General Branch of the presence of the enemy in our front. Captain Turner, of the seventh, was immediately sent to the left of the battery, with his company, to act as skirmishers. Soon after, General Branch ordered me to take command of the twenty-eighth and thirty-third regiments and dislodge the enemy, who were in the wood beyond the field of corn.

On passing beyond the small cluster of woods, to the right of the Crenshaw battery, we saw the enemy retreating in confusion before Captain Turner's skirmishers. We continued to advance until we saw General Gregg's brigade in the woods to our right. It was here that I learned the enemy was in force in the woods, and that General Gregg had been ordered not to press them. I deemed it advisable to inform General Branch of these facts, and was ordered by him to remain where I was. I had three companies at the time deployed as skirmishers along the fence in front of us, and connecting with those first sent out under Captain Turner. The enemy advanced upon General Gregg in strong force soon after we halted, and General Branch, with the rest of his command, advanced to his support. The thirty-seventh first became actively engaged. The enemy opened a deadly fire upon this regiment. The eighteenth, under Lieutenant

Colonel Purdie, and the seventh, under Captain McRae, went to its assistance, and the enemy were driven in disorder beyond the railroad cut. The enemy were repulsed in two subsequent attempts to drive these regiments from their positions. The thirty-third, under Colonel Hoke, also fought well in the woods to the left of these regiments, and once gallantly advanced into the open field in front and drove the enemy back in disorder. Up to this time the twenty-eighth had not been engaged, and as the other regiments were nearly out of ammunition, General Branch ordered it to join him, intending to make it cover his front. The order was not delivered properly, and the regiment went into action to the left of General Field's brigade. It advanced boldly into the woods, driving the enemy before it, although exposed to a left enfilade and direct fire, but fell back when it found itself alone in the woods and unsupported. The men, however, rallied and reformed in the centre of the open field and advanced a second time, when the enemy was not only driven beyond the cut, but entirely out of the woods. Never have I witnessed greater bravery and desperation than was that day displayed by this brigade. We were not actively engaged the next day, but held our position, under a heavy artillery fire and very heavy skirmishing, until late in the afternoon. We then followed up the enemy until about ten o'clock, P. M., advancing in line through a body of woods nearly to a large hospital, in which the enemy had left many of his wounded. Our loss in this three days' battle was thirty killed, one hundred and eighty-five wounded and some missing.

Ox Hill, SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>.

The pursuit was continued the whole of Sunday, and on Monday afternoon, about four o'clock, we came up with the enemy again at Ox Hill, near Fairfax Court-House, on the Alexandria and Winchester turnpike, when the engagement was immediately opened. This brigade pressed eagerly forward, through an open field and a piece of woods to the edge of another field, where we were for a short time exposed to the enemy's infantry fire, without being able to return it. An attempt was made to flank us on the right, and the eighteenth regiment was immediately detached from the centre of the brigade and ordered to the right to prevent the movement, which it did, sustaining a deadly fire, unsupported. The enemy's direct advance was through a field of corn, in which he sustained great loss, notwithstanding most of our guns fired badly, on account of the heavy rain which fell during the engagement. On learning that our ammunition was nearly out, General Branch made known the fact, and was ordered to hold his position at the point of the bayonet. We remained where we were until dark, when the whole command fell back to the field in rear of the woods. The twenty-eighth, cold, wet, and hungry, was then ordered back to the field of battle to do picket duty for the night, without fires. This engagement is regarded by this brigade as one of our severest. The enemy's infantry used a great many explosive balls.

Our loss was fourteen killed, ninety-two wounded, and two missing.

### HARPER'S FERRY.

The second day after the engagement at Ox Hill we marched through Leesburg, crossed the Potomac into Maryland on the 5th and moved in the direction of Frederick, where we remained several days. Then recrossed the Potomac at Williamsport and marched on Harper's Ferry, through Martinsburg. The evening of the 14th, we advanced down the Winchester and Harper's Ferry railroad. The seventh regiment was in advance, and its skirmishers, commanded by Captain Knox, succeeded in driving the enemy's sharpshooters from a high position overlooking the railroad. The remainder of the brigade reached this position after midnight and there slept upon their arms until day, when every one was in readiness and awaited the order to advance. After a short, but rapid and well-directed, artillery fire from our batteries, the enemy displayed several white flags, and we marched into the place without further resistance.

We captured several prisoners the evening of the 14th. Our loss was four wounded.

### SHARPSBURG, SEPTEMBER 1ST.

We left Harper's Ferry on the 17th of September, and after a very rapid and fatiguing march, recrossed the Potomac and reached Sharpsburg in time to participate in the fight. The entire brigade was ordered to the right, and on reaching the field, the twenty-eighth was detached by General A. P. Hill in person and sent on the road to the left, leading to Sharpsburg, to repel the enemy's skirmishers, who were advancing through a field of corn. The rest of the brigade moved nearly at right angles to our line and on the enemy's flank. The thirty-third, seventh, and thirty-seventh were the regiments principally engaged. They fought well and assisted in driving back three separate and distinct columns of the enemy. The eighteenth was not actively engaged. I was ordered, about sunset, to rejoin the brigade, and on doing so, ascertained that General Branch had been killed. It was after sunset when I assumed command of the brigade. I found the seventh, thirty-seventh, and thirty-third posted behind a stone fence, and the eighteenth sheltered in a hollow in rear. I ordered the twenty-eighth to the left of the line, but the order was delivered to the eighteenth, which was posted to the left behind a rail fence, a portion of it being broken back to guard against a flank movement. The twenty-eighth was posted to the left of the seventh in the opening caused by the withdrawal of a few Georgia troops. Although annoyed by the enemy's sharpshooters, we held our position until ordered to fall back on the night of the 18th. We did not cross the river until late next day. General Gregg's, General Archer's, and this brigade formed the rear guard of the army, and were kept in

line, facing the enemy, until infantry, artillery, cavalry, wagons, and ambulances had all safely crossed.

Our loss in this engagement was one brigadier general (L. O'B. Branch) killed, twenty others killed, seventy-nine wounded, and four missing.

SHEPHERDSTOWN, SEPTEMBER 20TH.

On the morning of the 20th of September, we were moved, with the balance of the division, back to the ferry near Shepherdstown. Soon after we had taken our position in line, in the field of corn in rear of the wheat stacks, we were ordered to advance in the face of a storm of round shot, shell and grape. We moved forward in line until we reached General Pender's brigade, sheltered behind the hill in front of the residence near the ferry. Finding that he was out-flanked on the left, we then moved by the left until we unmasked his brigade. The men, on reaching the top of the hill, raised a yell and poured a deadly fire into the enemy, who fled precipitately and in great confusion to the river. Advancing at a double-quick, we soon gained the bank of the river and continued our destructive fire upon those who were attempting to regain the Maryland shore at the old dam just above the ferry. We held our position all that day immediately upon the bank of the other river, though exposed to the heaviest cannonading of the war and in range of the enemy's sharpshooters, who were posted in strong force on the Chesapeake and Ohio canal.

Our loss three killed and seventy-one wounded.

Lieutenant Colonel Purdie, who bravely commanded the eighteenth in most of these engagements, desires that special mention should be made of Captain John D. Barry, of company I, for his coolness and gallantry and devotion to duty. Captains Turner and Knox, of the seventh, have on all occasions, but especially as commanders of skirmishers, won the admiration of the entire brigade by their daring and efficiency. Lieutenants Clominger and McCauley, of the twenty-eighth, are also deserving special notice for their great bravery and faithfulness in the discharge of their duties.

Very respectfully,

JAMES H. LANE,  
*Brigadier General.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL McGOWAN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE,  
*A. P. Hill's Light Division, Second Army Corps,*, }  
Camp Gregg, Va., Feb. 9, 1863. }

Major R. C. MORGAN,  
*Assistant Adjutant General :*

MAJOR: In compliance with the request of Major General Hill to send in a report of all military operations in which this brigade was engaged, "from the time when General Lee took command at Gordonsville, to the time when we left the Valley," I have the honor to submit the following general statement, which has been delayed on account of the absence of two regiments on fatigue duty. Not having been in command of the brigade, but only of one of its regiments, (the fourteenth South Carolina volunteers,) during these operations, I have not been able to make such a detailed report of particular events as the subject deserved, but am obliged to content myself with a mere outline of operations—the most important. Would that the lamented General Gregg, lately in command of the brigade, was here to make out the report of achievements in which he performed so large a part himself, and which he could have recorded better than any one else. I understand that the call does not include the Cedar Run or Slaughter Mountain campaign, which this brigade, as part of your division, made under Major General (now Lieutenant General) Jackson.

### CROSSING THE RAPPAHANNOCK.

On Saturday, the 16th of August, 1862, the second brigade, (Gregg's, now under my command,) A. P. Hill's light division, moved from its bivouac, between Gordonsville and Orange Court-House, to Crenshaw's farm, near the Rapidan river, where it remained until the 20th of August, when, crossing the river at Summersville ford, we advanced, under the orders of General Lee, against the forces of General Pope, which were occupying the whole country north of that river. The enemy fell back before us through Culpeper county; and we reached the north branch of the Rappahannock at the bridge where the Orange and Alexandria railroad crosses it, on Thursday, the 21st of August. The artillery of the enemy here opened on us across the stream, indicating that he had halted in his retreat and intended to make a stand there. The brigade slept on their arms under the guns of the enemy; and the next morning we turned to the left and proceeded up the river, crossing Hazel river at Wellford, and that night reached a point about opposite to the Fauquier White Sulphur Springs. Here we also found the enemy, who, having burnt the bridge, was again opposing our passage.

On Sunday, the 24th, the brigade was moved into position on the

Rappahannock hills, near the house of Dr. Scott, to support our artillery, which was engaged with that of the enemy across the stream. There the men were subjected to a severe cannonading for four hours, and suffered a small loss of five wounded. At the dawn of day Monday morning, the 26th, the regiments were turned out as ordered, with the utmost promptitude, without knapsacks, and again wheeling to the left, we marched rapidly several miles up the river, crossed the Rappahannock (Hedgeman's river) without opposition, at Hinson's mill, and made a forced march of twenty-four miles that day, up the Salem Valley to Cobbler's mountain.

On the 27th, we continued the march, without wagons, or baggage of any kind, turning to the right at Salem, through Thoroughfare Gap, in the Bull Run mountain, and slept at night in rear of our artillery, in the road near Bristoe's Station, on the Orange and Alexandria railroad. The next morning we reached Manassas Junction, where the enemy, attempting to recapture it, (said to be General Taylor's New Jersey brigade, from Alexandria,) were scattered, with considerable loss, and driven by our forces across Bull Run, towards Centreville. In the afternoon of that day, the brigade returned from pursuit to the junction, where three days' rations were issued from the vast supply of captured stores, and the men, for a few hours, rested and regaled themselves upon delicacies unknown to our commissariat, which they were in good condition to enjoy, having eaten nothing for several days except roasting ears, taken, by order, from the corn-fields near the road, and what was given by the generous citizens of the Salem Valley to the soldiers as they hurried along in their rapid march.

I have thus thought proper to state, somewhat in detail, the incidents of this bold flank movement by which we crossed the Rappahannock, turned the right of the enemy, got entirely into his rear, and cut off all his communications, seemingly without his knowledge, and certainly without serious opposition from him.

#### *Wounded in the Affair at Rappahannock :*

Thirteenth regiment South Carolina volunteers,	-	-	-	2
Fourteenth     "        "        "        "        "	-	-	-	3
Total,	-	-	-	5

#### THE SECOND BATTLE OF MANASSAS.

At dark, on the evening of Wednesday, the 27th of August, the brigade, in conjunction with that of Colonel (now General) Thomas, was thrown out on the south side of the Manassas Junction as the rear guard, and formed in line of battle, facing the enemy, who had, during the evening, been fighting General Ewell near Bristoe's Station. Standing under arms here, we had a fine view of the magnificent conflagration caused by the burning of sutler's and commissary stores, together with about a hundred cars on the railroad, freighted

with every article necessary for the outfit of a great army, all of which was set on fire about midnight and consumed.

About two o'clock in the morning of Thursday, the 28th, we silently retired from our picket lines in front of the enemy, and, by the light of the smouldering ruins, followed the division across Bull Run, at Blackburn's ford, to Centreville. Here we rested a short time, and thence turned back towards Bull Run, and, moving by the Warrenton turnpike, crossed the run again near the stone bridge. At this critical moment, the enemy falling back from the Rappahannock, (caused doubtless by our flank movement,) were coming down the turnpike from Warrenton, meeting us. Soon after crossing the run, we turned to the right, leaving the turnpike, and after going up the river a short distance, changed front and were drawn up in battle array, along the line of the unfinished independent railroad track, facing the turnpike, along which the enemy was moving. Brisk firing was heard upon our right, and about dark, the brigade was hurried to the scene of action, and ordered to report to General Ewell, who was directing the engagement. Arrived on the field after dark, finding General Ewell badly wounded. Soon after the firing ceased. We slept upon our arms near Ewell's battle-field, and the next morning, at early dawn, returned near the position first taken up by us the evening before, and were placed in line of battle on the extreme left of the whole command, near Catharpin Run. We occupied a small, rocky, wooded knoll, having a railroad excavation bending around the east and north fronts, and a cleared field on the northwest. This position was slightly in advance of the general line, and besides, being on the extreme left, was considered important, because of the Sudley ford road, which it commanded. Our line made an obtuse angle, pointing towards the enemy, one side of which ran nearly parallel with the railroad cut, and the other along the fence bordering the cleared field before spoken of. Within these contracted limits was the little tongue of woodland which we occupied, and which we were directed to hold at all hazards. On this spot, barely large enough to hold the brigade, we stood and fought, with intervals of cessation, from eight o'clock in the morning until dark. We repulsed many successive charges, I believe seven, the enemy constantly throwing fresh columns upon us, and persisting in his effort to carry the point with the utmost obstinacy. During the different struggles of the day, the regiments were relieved and shifted as occasion required. The space covered by the brigade was so small, and the distance between the regiments so inconsiderable, that I would not be able, if it were necessary, to state all the movements which were made. I can only advert to the positions of the respective regiments at one or two important junctures during the day. In the morning the regiments of the brigade were posted as follows: The thirteenth South Carolina volunteers (Colonel Edwards) on the right; to his left, the first South Carolina volunteers, (Lieutenant Colonel McCready;) to his left, the twelfth South Carolina volunteers, (Colonel Barnes;) to his left, the fourteenth South Carolina volunteers, (Colonel McGowan,) the latter regiment being thrown back along the fence bordering the field above

referred to, and Orr's regiment of rifles (Colonel Marshall) behind the centre, in reserve. General Gregg and his staff, and all the field officers, were on foot. The fight was commenced by us. From the noise which came from the woods, across the railroad, and the constant firing of the skirmishers, we knew that we were in the presence of the enemy, and General Gregg sent out Lieutenant Colonel McCready, with his regiment, to ascertain his location and number. He had gone but a short distance into the woods beyond the railroad cut, when he fell upon a large column of the enemy and returned. General Gregg, having thus discovered them, directed the first and twelfth regiments to advance and "drive back the enemy." These regiments commenced the advance together, but as the enemy threatened to flank the line on both the right and left, they soon separated. The first, in order to protect its threatened right, inclined to the right, and handsomely drove the enemy up the railroad. Colonel Edwards (the thirteenth) supported Lieutenant Colonel McCready in the movement, and gallantly held his exposed position on the right near the railroad, for the greater part of the day. The twelfth being pressed by a heavy column on its left flank, Colonel Barnes changed front to the left, and charging in the most spirited manner, drove the enemy down the railroad, breaking and routing them as often as they attempted to make a stand. When he had driven off the enemy and was returning, Col. Barnes was joined by Col. Marshall, who had been sent to his assistance, and the two regiments again charged and drove a heavy body, massing near the railroad. All the regiments at this time were recalled by an order not to advance, and in so doing bring on a general engagement, but to hold the position and act on the defensive. These dashing charges in advance were entirely successful, and at twelve, M., our front was cleared of the enemy, but they soon began to close around us again. It happened that there was an interval of about a hundred and seventy-five yards between our right and the left of General Thomas' brigade. Opposite to this interval the railroad cut was very deep, and the enemy getting into the cut at some point beyond, crawled, unobserved, down the excavation to a point opposite this interval, and, in very heavy force, made a sudden rush to enter this gap. The attack from that quarter was unexpected, and for a short time seemed likely to succeed. The assailants succeeded in getting nearly across the point of woods to the field on the northwest, thus for a moment cutting off and isolating our brigade, but it was only for a moment. The fourteenth regiment South Carolina volunteers, which at the time was in reserve, was promptly wheeled into the gap, and assisted by the left regiment of General Thomas' brigade, (believed to be the forty-ninth Georgia,) and such parts of our brigade as were near the point, drove them back across the railroad cut, with great slaughter. The opposing forces at one time delivered their volleys into each other at the distance of ten paces.

About three o'clock, P. M., another most vigorous effort for the position was made from all the points held by the enemy, whose fire now formed a semi-circle of flame and smoke, extending at least half round the devoted hill. For the first time they now came through the corner

of the open field which has been so often referred to, and pressed heavily on Orr's rifles, which at this moment occupied the fence. Colonel J. Foster Marshall and Lieutenant Colonel D. A. Ledbetter, together with many other gallant officers and soldiers of this regiment fell here, but the obstinate enemy was again repulsed at all points and driven beyond the railroad. From the long-continued struggle, the ammunition of the men was all expended, but the resolution of General Gregg to hold the position was unchanged. When Major General Hill, commanding, sent to enquire whether he could hold out, he replied, modestly, he thought he could, adding, as if casually, that "his ammunition was about expended, but he still had the bayonet." It was now four o'clock, P. M., and there was no abatement in the fury of the assaults, when the brigades of Generals Branch and Early, having been sent to our assistance, came in most opportunely and gallantly. After these reinforcements had arrived and passed to the front, General Gregg collected the remnant of his regiments and, placing them in line behind the troops now engaged, gave them instructions to lie down, and, if our friends were overpowered and had to fall back over them, to wait until the enemy was very near, then rise and drive them back at the point of the bayonet. The men all lay down as instructed, resolved, as the last resort to try the virtue of the cold steel; but, happily, the necessity did not arise. The enemy were finally driven back at all points, and night closed upon us, occupying the identical spot which we were ordered to hold in the morning. We slept on the field of battle, and remained in position all the next day whilst the great battle of the second Manassas was progressing on our right. The enemy made several attempts to advance, but the admirable practice of Captain McIntosh's battery kept them beyond musket range, scattering them with shot and shell every time they moved forward. Some few men were wounded by shell, but we were not very actively engaged on that day.

Friday, the 29th, was the glorious but bloody day for the brigade. It may be allowed for us to claim that, by holding the left steady on Friday, we contributed something to the success of the great battle on Saturday. The distinguished Brigadier General who commanded, and who was present everywhere during the day, and exerting himself to the utmost, was himself spared, only to fall upon another victorious field, (Fredericksburg,) but many of our noblest and best officers and men fell there. The aggregate of the killed and wounded of the brigade in this battle was six hundred and thirteen, (613.)

All the field officers were either killed or wounded, except two. Among those who gloriously yielded up their lives on the battle-field are the following officers: Colonel J. Foster Marshall and Lieutenant Colonel D. A. Ledbetter, Captain M. M. Norton and Lieutenant W. C. Davis, of Orr's rifles; Captain C. D. Barksdale and Lieutenant John M. Munro, of the first South Carolina volunteers; Lieutenants J. A. May and Hunnicutt of the twelfth; Captain A. K. Smith and Adjutant W. D. Goggins, of the the thirteenth South Carolina volunteers.

Among the wounded were the following officers: Lieutenant Coth-

ran, of Orr's rifles; Lieutenant Colonel McCready, of the first South Carolina volunteers; Lieutenant Colonel McCorkle, Captain Bookter, Captain Grist, and Lieutenants Dunlop, Sharpe, Bingham, Dornin, Gwinn, White, Thode, Hankle and Rollins, of the twelfth South Carolina volunteers; Colonel Edwards, Lieutenant Colonel Farron, Major Brockman, Captain R. L. Boudon, Captain P. A. Eichelberger, Captain J. W. Meetze, and Lieutenants Copeland, Crooker, Grice, Thorn and Felloes, of the thirteenth South Carolina volunteers; Col. McGowan, Captain Stuckey, Captain Brown, and Lieuts. Robertson, Carter and Allen, of the fourteenth South Carolina volunteers.

*Statement of Killed and Wounded:*

	Killed.	Wounded.	Aggregate.
Orr's rifles,	19	97	116
First S. Carolina Volunteers,	24	119	143
Twelfth S. Carolina Vols.,	24	121	145
Thirteenth S. Carolina Vols.,	23	118	144
Fourteenth S. Carolina Vols.,	8	57	65
	—	—	—
	101	512	613

*Field Officers Killed:*

Colonel J. Foster Marshall, Orr's Rifles.

Lieutenant Colonel D. A. Ledbetter, Orr's Rifles.

*Field Officers Wounded:*

Colonel Dixon, twelfth South Carolina Volunteers.

Lieutenant Colonel McCorkle, twelfth South Carolina Volunteers.

Colonel O. E. Edwards, thirteenth South Carolina Volunteers.

Lieutenant Colonel T. S. Farron, thirteenth South Carolina Volunteers.

Major B. T. Brockman, thirteenth South Carolina Volunteers.

Colonel S. McGowan, fourteenth South Carolina Volunteers.

Lieutenant Colonel E. McCready, first South Carolina Volunteers.

OX HILL.

Being wounded at Manassas, I was not with the brigade in the campaign into Maryland which followed, and therefore this report must be short and unsatisfactory. The brigade remained upon the battle-field of Manassas until Sunday, the 31st of August, when they moved in pursuit of the enemy. Crossing Bull Run at Sudley ford and reaching Pleasant Valley that night, the next day, September 1st, they moved towards Fairfax Court House, and late in the evening, near Ox Hill, suddenly came in contact with the enemy, who was already in position on the right and front, covering his line of retreat from Centreville to Fairfax Court-House. Whilst on the march, the skirmishers suddenly commenced firing, and the brigade quickly formed in line of battle, under a heavy fire. The thirteenth

and fourteenth South Carolina volunteers were posted in front, the twelfth South Carolina volunteers supporting the fourteenth, and Orr's rifles supporting the thirteenth, and the first South Carolina volunteers in reserve. In this order, with loaded muskets and fixed bayonets, they were immediately pushed upon the enemy south of the turnpike. They advanced rapidly to a fence. The twelfth was thrown out on the left of the fourteenth to lengthen the line, and the rifles were also thrown forward. After a short, but very brisk and severe contest, they drove the enemy back. A cold and drenching thunder shower swept over the field during the engagement, and rendered many of the guns unfit for use. The enemy withdrew and we slept upon the field. The brigade went into action unexpectedly, but behaved extremely well. For the time they were engaged, and the small numbers present, their loss was heavy, being in the aggregate one hundred and four killed and wounded, including some valuable officers. Among the killed were Lieutenant W. C. Leppard, of the thirteenth, and Adjutant W. C. Buckannon, of the twelfth; and among the wounded were Captain A. P. West and Lieutenant E. T. Youngblood, of the fourteenth, and Robert Junkins, of Orr's rifles. No field officers killed or wounded.

*Statement of Killed and Wounded:*

	Killed.	Wounded.	Aggregate.
First South Carolina volunteers,	1	7	8
Orr's rifles,	5	25	30
Twelfth South Carolina volunteers,	1	10	11
Thirteenth South Carolina volunteers,	5	24	29
Fourteenth South Carolina volunteers,	3	23	26—104

CAPTURE OF HARPER'S FERRY.

The brigade left Ox Hill on the 3rd of September, and, marching through Dranesville and Leesburg, crossed the Potomac into Maryland at White's ford on the 5th. They rested at Monocacy Junction, near Frederick City, until the 10th, when, in order to perform their part in the investment and capture of Harper's Ferry, they commenced a forced march, and, making a large circuit by way of Boonsboro', Williamsport and Martinsburg, reached the vicinity of Harper's Ferry, from the Virginia side, on the 13th. Sunday, the 14th, the brigade moved down the Winchester railroad, on the left bank of the Shenandoah, and were engaged during the night, until two o'clock the next morning, in getting into position on the plateau between the Shenandoah and Bolivar Heights, the latter place being held by a strong force of the enemy. Here morning dawned upon the command, ready to storm the heights. The view was magnificent, presenting such a spectacle as is rarely seen. At early dawn the batteries of McIntosh and Davidson opened upon the left of our position, and soon after other batteries commenced firing upon the enemy from the Loudoun Heights, beyond the Shenandoah. When every-

thing was ready for the assault, a white flag was seen displayed by the enemy as evidence of surrender, and, at half-past seven o'clock on the morning of the 15th September, Major General A. P. Hill entered the captured works. At nine o'clock the brigade was marched up to the heights and employed in guarding prisoners, arms, &c. We sustained no loss in these brilliant operations.

#### SHARPSBURG.

At Harper's Ferry, during the 16th, heavy cannonading on the Maryland side was distinctly heard, and on Wednesday we made a forced march up the river, crossed the river at Boteler's ford, a short distance below Shepherdstown, and arrived on the field of Sharpsburg in the afternoon, about two miles from the Potomac, reaching the actual presence of the enemy at forty minutes past three o'clock, P. M., which was not a moment too soon for the fortunes of the day. The general line of our army seemed to be in front of the town of Sharpsburg, facing the east, with its right flank stretching towards the Potomac. The enemy were in front, along the line of the Antietam river. We came upon the field on the extreme right of our line, perhaps two miles from the Potomac. It was seen at once that a large force of the enemy (said to be Burnside's division) were in the act of sweeping down the Antietam and around our right, with the object manifestly of cutting off our army from the Potomac. The light division came from the proper direction, and at the right moment, to meet this column and drive it back across the Antietam. Gregg's brigade was placed in position on the right. The fourteenth South Carolina volunteers, Lieutenant Colonel Simpson, being the leading regiment, was thrown out to hold a position on the extreme right, being the point of our line nearest the Potomac. The enemy, checked in his flank movement, never got so far to our right, and consequently that regiment was not actively engaged. The first South Carolina volunteers, Colonel Hamilton, the twelfth, Colonel Barnes, and thirteenth, Colonel Edwards, formed in line of battle, were directed to enter the field to the left of the fourteenth and drive back the enemy. This line advanced to the top of a hill, in a corn-field, and there engaged the enemy, who appeared advancing in force upon the opposite hill, and held a fence in the ravine between the hills. They checked at once the advance of the enemy. Colonel Edwards, on the left, took up a strong position behind a stone fence and held it. Colonel Barnes advanced down the hill and, with a charge, gallantly drove the enemy from the fence in front. He was, however, in a few moments, flanked by a large body on the right, and had to retire his regiment a short distance up the hill, the enemy immediately re-occupying the fence. Colonel Barnes soon returned to the attack and, upon the same ground, charged with his fine regiment three times, and the last time drove them from the fence and up the hill beyond, with great slaughter.

In the meantime, Colonel Hamilton, feeling a heavy pressure upon his right, obliqued his regiment in that direction and gallantly drove

them, clearing the front, and at the same time covering the right of Colonel Barnes. A heavy body now appeared on the right of Colonel Hamilton, and Captain Perrin, commanding Orr's rifles, was sent out to sweep the field in that direction. He led his regiment up a hill, discovered the enemy in the hollow beyond, dispersed them at once, and held the position, which was somewhat in advance of the general line. Thus the columns which were enveloping the right of our army were driven back at all points, and, at the last moment, Sharpsburg made a victory for the Confederate arms.

The brigade held its position on the field all night, the next day, and until three o'clock in the morning of Friday, the 19th, when they joined the division and moved towards Boteler's ford on the Potomac, which was crossed without losing a man. In the critical operation of crossing the river in the face of so large a force, the light division, General A. P. Hill, was the rear guard, and Gregg's brigade was in rear of the division. Two companies of the fourteenth South Carolina volunteers, under the command of Captain Brown, were thrown out by Lieutenant Colonel Simpson as skirmishers, in a corn-field, about a mile from the river, thus covering the passage of the army. About nine o'clock, A. M., whilst the light division was crossing, Captain Brown's small detachment was attacked by cavalry, but, dispersing them by a single volley, they succeeded in reaching the river and crossing in safety.

The fighting at Sharpsburg was severe, and the loss considerable, being in the aggregate one hundred and sixty-five. Among the killed were Colonel Dixon Barnes, Captain F. A. Erwin and Lieutenant Blackman, of the twelfth South Carolina volunteers, and Lieutenant J. A. McIntyre, of the first South Carolina volunteers. Among the wounded were Captain M. P. Parker, of the first South Carolina volunteers; Captain J. L. Miller, Captain H. C. Davis, Lieutenant R. M. Kerr, and Captain J. M. Perrin, commanding Orr's rifles; W. J. Stone and S. G. Roseborough, of the twelfth South Carolina volunteers, and Lieutenants J. M. Wheeler and W. L. Leitzer, of the thirteenth. Where all did their duty well, it may not be unpardonable to declare that, in this battle, the palm was borne off by the intrepid Colonel Barnes, who nobly fell whilst leading the invincible twelfth in their last victorious charge. Colonel Barnes was as amiable and generous in peace as he was gallant and irresistible in war. Having large wealth and high position at home, he left all to fall at the head of his beloved regiment, gallantly struggling for the independence of his country.

#### *Statement of Killed and Wounded.*

	Killed.	Wounded.	Aggregate.
First South Carolina volunteers,	4	30	34
Orr's rifles,	3	9	12
Twelfth South Carolina volunteers,	20	82*	104
Thirteenth South Carolina volunteers,	1	14	15—165

\*Two missing.

*Field Officer Killed:*

Colonel Dixon Barnes, twelfth South Carolina volunteers.

## SHEPHERDSTOWN.

After crossing the river into Virginia and marching about five miles, the brigade spent the night, and was ordered back next morning, the 20th, to Boteler's ford, near Shepherdstown, to drive back the enemy, who was reported to be crossing at that point. General Gregg formed line of battle, Orr's rifles deployed as skirmishers in front, and advanced in splendid style. The batteries of the enemy, on the Maryland side, poured upon them a terrible fire of grape, round shot and shell. Their practice was remarkably fine, bursting shells in the ranks at every discharge. The fourteenth South Carolina volunteers, Lieutenant Colonel Simpson, from the nature of the ground over which it passed, was particularly exposed. When the artillery made gaps in their ranks, they closed up like veterans, and marched on without confusion or in the least losing distance. The rifles went down near to the river and drove the enemy into the water, most of them being either killed or drowned. The brigade lay under a terrible fire of shells all day, and at dark returned to bivouac. The loss of the brigade was sixty-three killed and wounded, mostly in the fourteenth. Among the killed, being the brave, generous, and efficient Captain James H. Dunlap, of Laurens, South Carolina, who was blown to pieces by a shell; and among the wounded was Lieutenant D. H. Hamilton, Jr., adjutant of the first South Carolina volunteers.

On Sunday, the 2nd November, occurred the affair at Castleman's ford, near Snicker's Gap. Gregg's and Thomas' brigades, accompanied by a battery of artillery, were thrown forward as a sort of picket, to secure that ford against any effort General McClellan (who was reported to be at Snickersville in force) might make to pass the mountain there. Gregg's brigade took position and, under light fire of artillery, awaited the approach of the enemy, who never reached our side of the ford. In this affair the brigade lost three wounded, one mortally.

The brigade remained in bivouac, at different places in the lower Valley, until Saturday, the 22nd November, when they moved, with the light division, from Jordan's spring, on the Opequon, near Winchester. Marching up the Winchester and Staunton turnpike, we turned to the left at New Market, passed the Blue Ridge at Milam's Gap, then covered with snow, and on the 27th left the beautiful Valley of Virginia. Passing by Madison and Orange, we reached the Massaponax Hill, near Fredericksburg, on Wednesday, the 3rd of December, having made a march of one hundred and seventy-five miles in twelve days. Again regretting much the many imperfections of this hasty sketch of operations which must be historical,

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. McGOWAN,

*Brigadier General commanding Second Brigade, L. D.*

**STATEMENT OF KILLED AND WOUNDED.**

	Killed.	Wounded.	Aggregate.
Orr's rifles,	—	1	1
First South Carolina volunteers,	—	4	4
Twelfth South Carolina volunteers,	—	1	1
Thirteenth South Carolina volunteers,	—	2	2
Fourteenth South Carolina volunteers, 10		45	55—63

**SNICKER'S GAP.**

	Killed.	Wounded.	Aggregate.
Orr's rifles,	1	—	1
Twelfth South Carolina volunteers,	—	2	2—3

**RECAPITULATION—KILLED AND WOUNDED.**

	RAPPAHANNOCK.	SECOND MANASSAS.	OX HILL.	SHARPSBURG.	SHEPHERDSTOWN.	SNICKER'S.	AGGREGATE.
Orr's Rifles, S. Carolina Vols.....	116	30	12	1	1	1	160
1st Regiment S. Carolina Vols....	143	8	34	4	.....	.....	189
12th Regiment S. Carolina Vols...	145	11	104	1	2	2	263
13th Regiment S. Carolina Vols...	2	144	29	15	2	.....	192
14th Regiment S. Carolina Vols...	3	65	26	.....	55	.....	149
Total.....	5	613	104	165	63	3	953

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL EVANS.

HEADQUARTERS EVANS' BRIGADE,  
Near Winchester, Va., October 13, 1862. {

Major G. M. SORREL,

*Assistant Adjutant General, Right Wing:*

MAJOR: In pursuance to the written instructions of the Major General commanding, I beg leave to report the action of my command in the recent engagements in Virginia and Maryland. On the 6th of August last, I was ordered to repair, with my brigade, to Malvern Hill, and to drive the enemy from the wood to the north of the hill. I deployed my troops in line of battle, and, after marching about a mile through the woodland and open field, encountered the cavalry pickets of the enemy, which were soon driven in by the fire of two regiments, killing several of the enemy, who soon retired, evacuating his position—four prisoners taken.

On the morning of the 24th August, I was ordered to support, with my brigade, the batteries under the command of Major Garnett, who was attacking the enemy at Rappahannock Station, with further instructions to attack the enemy should he appear on the south side of the river. Receiving a message from Captain Squiers, commanding the battery, that the enemy were in a small redoubt, which they had thrown up the night previous, I immediately ordered an advance to drive him from his position; but, on the approach of my troops, he soon retreated across the railroad bridge, before we were in musket range. I here ordered the Macbeth artillery, Captain Boyce, to advance, occupy the work, and to open fire on the enemy across the river. This point, however, Captain Boyce found untenable, as the enemy's batteries swept the entire hill and work. He was compelled to retire with the loss of four wounded. The entire loss of my brigade in this engagement was twenty-one killed, (enlisted men); seven commissioned officers, and seventy-five enlisted men, wounded. The coolness of the men and of the officers of the brigade excited my highest admiration. Many of them never having been under fire before, sustained a severe fire of grape and shell for more than three hours without breaking line of battle.

On the evening of the 29th of August, the brigade engaged the skirmishers of the enemy, in considerable force, on the south side of the road near Groveton, and rendered efficient co-operation to the commands of General Wilcox, on the left, and General Hood, on the right, in driving the enemy from his position. The enemy falling back, and the darkness of the night concealing his movements, I formed my brigade in the camp of the enemy, until ordered to fall back by the Major General commanding. Leaving a strong picket in my front, I withdrew about a mile to the rear.

On the morning of the 30th August, the enemy presenting himself in large force near Groveton, I was ordered to take command of the

troops formed immediately on the right of the road, embracing Whiting's division, Brigadier General J. B. Hood, commanding, Pickett's brigade, Colonel Eppa Hunton commanding, and my own brigade. I would state that, just before the action commenced, Pickett's brigade was ordered to the support of General Kemper. My command now consisted of three brigades, which were disposed as follows: Evans' brigade, with the left resting on the turnpike, under the immediate command of Colonel P. F. Stevens; Hood, with his command, on Stevens' right. In this position my command rested until about four o'clock, P. M., when General Hood was ordered to advance, Colonel Stevens supporting his left. The command soon became warmly engaged with the enemy, who seemed to concentrate a heavy force on the right of the road, and opened a heavy artillery fire on my whole line from right to left. After advancing more than a mile, the command of General Hood, after charging the batteries in the centre, was compelled to fall back, which was done in good order. Stevens' command coming up immediately afterwards, held the enemy until relieved, timely, by Major General R. H. Anderson's division. In this engagement the loss of Evans' brigade was very severe—the loss being fourteen officers and ninety-eight enlisted men killed, forty-eight officers and four hundred and sixty-three enlisted men wounded, and eight enlisted men missing. Among the killed were the gallant Colonel J. H. Means, of the seventeenth regiment South Carolina volunteers, and Colonel J. M. Gadberry, of the eighteenth regiment. These brave men were shot down while nobly leading their regiments into action. Colonel Gadberry was killed instantly; Colonel Means, mortally wounded, survived two days. It is but justice to the memory of these noble and gallant officers to mention my appreciation of their valuable services. Colonel Means, though much advanced in years, ever exhibited the energy of youth in battling our ruthless foe, and devoting his whole ability to our sacred cause. His death fully exemplifies his devotion to his country. Colonel Gadberry was conspicuous during the battle for his dauntless conduct and unflinching firmness. Among the wounded were the brave and energetic Major F. G. Palmer, of the Holcomb legion, and the gallant Colonel H. L. Benbow, of the twenty-first regiment. The list of the other gallant dead and wounded officers is herewith enclosed, and I would respectfully refer the Major General commanding to the reports of their immediate commands for the history of their actions. To Colonel P. F. Stevens, of the Holcomb legion, commanding the brigade, I am much indebted for his untiring zeal and dauntless courage, cheering his men, under heavy fire, during the entire engagement. My command succeeded in driving the enemy from their batteries with great slaughter, and turning his own batteries against his retreating forces. A large number of small arms and accoutrements, and three stand of colors were captured. For the action of the Texas and third Georgia brigades, I respectfully refer to the reports of General Hood and the Colonels commanding.

On the 14th of August, my division was ordered to support the command of Brigadier General Rodes, on the left of the road, near

South Mountain. On marching my brigade up the mountain, on our extreme left, I was informed that the two brigades, under the immediate command of Brigadier General Hood, had been detached, by order of the Major General commanding, to support our right, and I was further ordered to hold my position on the left, and that reinforcements would be sent. On my arrival at the summit of the mountain the skirmishers of the enemy were met, supported by several of his batteries, which commanded my position. I ordered Colonel Stevens, commanding brigade, to push over the summit and engage the enemy then firing on General Rodes' troops, retiring. Colonel Stevens soon became engaged with a much superior force, two columns of the enemy advancing rapidly upon his small command. This force, however, was bravely met, and the position held until the troops on my right had retired, leaving my brigade nearly surrounded by the enemy. I then directed my troops to retire, firing, to the east side of the mountain, which was done in good order. During the night, I received an order to march in the direction of Sharpsburg, and my division ordered to act as rear-guard, which duty was performed until our arrival at the Antietam river, on the evening of the 15th September.

On the morning of the 16th, General Hood, with his two brigades, were detached and sent to the support of Major General D. H. Hill, leaving me but two brigades, Colonels Anderson's and Evans' brigades. During the day my command was held as support to Colonel Walton's artillery, also with orders to defend the bridge over the Antietam, and my skirmishers were engaged throughout the day with the sharpshooters of the enemy.

On the morning of the 17th, the enemy attacked our left in force, and about noon Colonel Anderson's brigade was detached to support General Hood, then supporting Major General D. H. Hill, on our left. About two o'clock, P. M., I was ordered to rally the troops then flocking to the town from our left, and to bring them into action. After considerable exertion, with the assistance of my entire staff, I succeeded in collecting about two hundred and fifty men and officers, whom I formed into two commands, and placed them respectively under the command of Colonels Colquitt and Iverson, of Major General D. H. Hill's division. At three o'clock, observing the enemy approaching my position, (directly on the left of the road,) also attempting to cross the bridge on my right, I ordered an advance, Colonels Colquitt and Iverson on the left, with Boyce's battery, and Colonel Stevens on the right, supported by two batteries of Colonel S. D. Lee's battalion, who came timely, at my request, to my assistance, and rendered material aid in driving the enemy back across the river, with Colonel Stevens' command as skirmishers on the right, while I attacked the enemy with Colquitt's and Iverson's commands on the left.

This little command gallantly drove the enemy from his cover in the corn-field, and caused him to retreat in confusion, leaving a number of their dead and two stand of colors, the latter having been shot down by a well directed fire of Captain Boyce's battery. I also requested Colonel Walton, of the artillery, to open fire on the enemy's batteries that had crossed the bridge, which, being promptly done, had

the desired effect of driving them back. My brigade then resumed its original position, and bivouacked for the night, sleeping on their arms. For individual instances of gallantry and distinction, I beg leave to refer to the reports of the immediate commanders.

To my general and personal staff I am much indebted, for their bravery and fidelity in carrying my orders. Captain T. D. Eason, ordnance officer; Captain A. L. Evans, assistant adjutant general; First Lieutenant Samuel J. Corrie, aid-de-camp, were often under heavy fire, and executed their several duties with intrepidity. My faithful courier, Mr. Farquhar Trazevant, was shot down near me by a shell, inflicting a wound from which he has since died. His loss was severe to me, both personally and in his official capacity. I am also pained to announce the fall of Captain Samuel Jordan, assistant adjutant general of Colonel Colquitt's brigade, who was shot down while gallantly transmitting my orders. Enclosed herewith, please find the reports of regimental and battery commanders.

The total loss of Evans' brigade in the above mentioned engagements is one thousand and twenty-four aggregate, from an aggregate of one thousand eight hundred and thirty on the 30th July, 1862. It is proper to state that the aggregate for duty was afterwards increased to twenty-two hundred by the addition of the twenty-third regiment South Carolina volunteers.

In conclusion, I would call the attention of the Major General commanding to the gallant conduct of the officers of this brigade.

In each engagement some field officer was either wounded or killed. I had neglected to mention above the loss of the gallant Lieutenant Colonel T. C. Watkins, of the twenty-third regiment South Carolina volunteers, and Major R. S. Means, of the seventeenth regiment, both of whom were shot down while cheering their regiments. Colonel Watkins was killed instantly, and Major Means, severely wounded in both legs, was left in the hands of the enemy.

Respectfully submitted,

N. G. EVANS,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

P. S.—The report of the eighteenth regiment South Carolina volunteers will be forwarded to-morrow.

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL RANSOM OF BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

HEADQUARTERS RANSOM'S BRIGADE,  
Camp near Martinsburg, Va., September 22, 1862. }

Captain WILLIAM A. SMITH,

*Assistant Adjutant General :*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part performed by my brigade in the battle near Sharpsburg, Maryland, on the 17th instant:

The regiments present were the twenty-fourth, twenty-fifth, thirty-fifth and forty-ninth North Carolina troops, commanded respectively by Lieutenant Colonel Harris, Colonel Rutledge, Colonel Ransom and Lieutenant Colonel McAfee. The strength present was about sixteen hundred aggregate.

About three o'clock, in the morning of the 17th instant, the brigade, followed by the others of the division, was moved to the extreme right of the position occupied by our troops, and posted upon some hills which commanded an open country. Here it remained in line until about nine o'clock, when an order from General Lee directed the division to the left, where the enemy was pushing back our forces.

From the first position the brigade moved left in front until we had passed the town of Sharpsburg some half mile to the north, when it was formed into line by inversion, bringing the forty-ninth over the right. The line was formed under a severe fire, and in the presence of some of our troops, who had been driven back. As soon as formed, the whole brigade was pushed rapidly forward, and, after passing some two hundred yards, I received orders to form to the right and resist the enemy, who were in possession of a piece of woods. The change of position was effected with three of the regiments, the forty-ninth, twenty-fifth and thirty-fifth; but the twenty-fourth, on the extreme left, had come upon the enemy and opened fire, and continued in the first position, upon the left of General Barksdale's brigade.

Upon reaching the woods, we met parts of Hood's and Early's commands, and, leaving them, immediately encountered the enemy in strong force, flushed with a temporary success. A tremendous fire was poured into them and, without a halt, the woods was cleared, and the crest next the enemy occupied.

At this time, I determined to charge across a field in our front, and to a woods beyond, which was held by the enemy; but he again approached in force to within a hundred yards, where he was met by the same crushing fire which had driven him first from the position. I now went to recall the twenty-fourth, which had passed on—which had been directed, as I afterwards heard, by General Stewart, to occupy a position near the extreme left—but finding it was so far away,

returned. During my absence, the enemy again attempted to force the position, after subjecting us to a fearful storm of iron missiles for thirty minutes. Colonel Ransom, commanding during my absence, repulsed him signally and put an end to any further attempt by infantry to dislodge us. Immediately after this, fire from two large batteries was opened upon us, and continued with occasional intermissions until nightfall.

About noon, General Longstreet sent me word to take the battery in our front, and the order to advance was given, when General McLaws arrived, and ordered me to desist from the attempt. Again, about two or three o'clock, I received instructions to advance and take the battery. Just at this time the enemy was observed to have massed a strong force about the batteries, and General Walker, having arrived, forbade the movement until he could communicate with General Longstreet in person. Shortly afterwards, orders came to defer any attempt upon the enemy's position until General Jackson should have attacked him upon his right flank. This was not accomplished by General Jackson, and the effort to capture the two large batteries, which had almost incessantly played upon us for eight hours, was not made.

I cannot too highly compliment the men and officers for their gallant behavior during the entire day. They formed under a galling fire, and, in presence of our retiring troops, pressed forward and drove back a far superior force, and three times afterwards repulsed determined attacks of the enemy, and in largely superior numbers to our own. But the highest credit is due for the perfect coolness exhibited during an eight hours exposure to an unparalleled cannonade, and within canister range.

I will not close my report without bringing to the notice of the commanding General the conspicuous conduct of Colonel Ransom, of which the General can learn more by inquiry of Colonels Hall and Jenkins, forty-sixth North Carolina; Major Flemming, too, of the forty-ninth, evinced a cool daring and soldierly presence of mind eminently praiseworthy.

Lieutenant and Adjutant Cooke, of the twenty-fourth, was foremost in leading his regiment while under my eye, and I have had frequent occasions to observe qualities which make him second to none in courage and capacity.

Lieutenant Colonel Bryson, of the twenty-fifth, was cool and gallant. I cannot further particularize.

To the members of my staff I owe much for their prompt and untiring assistance. Captain Rowland, A. A. G.; Lieutenant Brodnax, A. D. C.; Mr. Mason, volunteer aid, and Lieutenants Ashe and Thomas, the last my ordnance officer, who was ever in the right place. My orderlies, privates Pierson and De Vom, of the twenty-fourth, acted with unwonted intelligence and gallantry throughout the day, in bearing messages, under the hottest fire. The latter had his horse shot.

Though not a part of my brigade, I cannot properly close my report without mentioning the forty-sixth North Carolina volunteers, Colo-

nel Hall commanding. About mid-day he reported to me, with his regiment, and was at once ordered into position on my right, which was unflinchingly maintained throughout. The conduct of the regiment was all it should have been, and the bravery of Colonel Hall and Lieutenant Colonel Jenkins reflects the highest credit upon themselves and the service. A list of casualties is hereunto appended.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

R. RANSOM, Jr.,

*Brigadier General.*

# REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL PRYOR OF SECOND BATTLE OF MANASSAS.

HEADQUARTERS PRYOR'S BRIGADE,  
Near Winchester, Oct. 5, 1862.

CAPTAIN: A very brief narrative will suffice to exhibit the operations of this brigade in the battle of Manassas.

When the enemy's attack on the left of our line was repulsed, I was directed by Brigadier General Wilcox to throw my brigade on his broken columns. Disposing my troops in two lines, with the first, consisting of the third Virginia, the fourteenth Alabama, and the eighth Florida regiments, I pushed across the field, to the end of intercepting the enemy in his retreat. Perceiving my design, the flying Federals turned to the left, sought the shelter of a neighboring wood, and attempted to arrest our advance. But neither a terrific artillery fire on their flank, nor an unexpected fusilade in front, could check the impetuous onset of my brave men. Into the woods they dashed and, with little delay, dislodged the enemy from his cover. This accomplished, I changed front to the right, with the view of charging the batteries, from whose fire my troops suffered so seriously.

In pursuance of a suggestion from General Wilcox, I concerted with Brigadier General Featherston a plan of attack on these batteries. It was agreed that, while General Featherston turned the enemy's flank, I should assail him in front. In the execution of this scheme very little difficulty was encountered, the enemy, on our approach, invariably abandoning his position, almost without a struggle. Several of his detached pieces and caissons we captured, but generally he succeeded, by a timely flight, in escaping with his batteries. Indeed, with his expulsion from the wood where he first sought shelter the fighting with us ceased. Afterwards it was a mere chase, in which the enemy exhibited such fleetness that we could inflict upon him only a trifling loss. The pursuit was vigorously pressed, nevertheless, until darkness arrested our further progress. The brigade bivouacked on the advanced position won by our arms.

In the progress of the action, I had the misfortune to be separated from my command by a circumstance to which I allude only in explanation of my absence. Returning from a search after two of my regiments, which, in the confusion of the fight, had become detached from the brigade, I advanced unconsciously beyond the enemy's line, and was awhile detained in my embarrassing position. Eventually, however, I was so fortunate as to effect my escape and rejoin my command.

Of the conduct of officers and men in this fight, I have to speak in the most complimentary terms. The fifth and eighth Florida regiments, though never under fire before, exhibited the cool and collected courage of veterans. Special mention of peculiar merit in individuals I reserve for another communication.

The loss of the brigade, as shown by the list of casualties, was

comparatively inconsiderable, not exceeding one hundred and fifty in killed, wounded and missing. Among the killed, however, was my assistant adjutant general, Captain Walter Wrenn, a young gentleman of the purest and most amiable character, of a genius developed and adorned by rare attainments in every department of polite learning, and of a courage which had serenely confronted death on more than one battle-field. He fell in the moment of victory, and in the act of cheering on a charge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROGER. A PRYOR,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL FEATHERSTON OF  
SECOND BATTLE OF MANASSAS.

RICHMOND, V.A., September 25, 1862.

Major SORREL, A. A. G.,

*Major General Longstreet's Division:*

SIR: I submit the following report, showing the action of my brigade at the battle of Manassas Plains, fought on the 30th day of August last:

At an early hour on the morning of the 30th, my brigade was posted near a fence, about half a mile west of the main road running to the village of Groveton, uniting with General Jackson's command on my left at the railroad embankment. General Pryor's brigade was placed on the right of mine, and General Wilcox's a short distance in the rear to support the other two. The other brigades of General Longstreet's division continued our line of battle to the right, and extending a considerable distance beyond the turnpike running through Groveton. Immediately in our front, and extending a considerable distance to our right, was an old field, from a half a mile to a mile wide. The troops remained in position here from an early hour in the morning until about three o'clock in the afternoon. While in this position, my brigade was subjected to a very heavy fire from the enemy's artillery, which was placed in the woods on the opposite side of the field lying in our front. Two of our batteries, placed on a hill about the centre of my brigade, and just in the rear, returned the enemy's fire during most of the time.

The enemy were observed during the forenoon passing down the turnpike from the direction of the stone house, and filing to the right and left of our lines. About three o'clock, P. M., one brigade was seen emerging from the woods on the opposite side of the field, advancing in the direction of General Jackson's right and my left. The advance was steady and unchecked under a very heavy fire of the batteries supported by my brigade, as well as from others placed on the left and right of the turnpike road. This brigade of the enemy was followed by two others, (under the same heavy fire of our batteries,) which advanced to within forty or fifty yards of our lines. Here they came to a halt, and returned the fire of our infantry for about thirty minutes, when they commenced the retreat across the field in great confusion. The fire of our artillery upon the retreating foe was rapid and destructive. As soon as the retreat commenced, our troops were ordered to advance. One of General Jackson's brigades advanced on our left, and my brigade, General Pryor's and General Wilcox's moved forward in line of battle on its right. We reached the woods in front, and passed through the skirt of woods, over six hundred yards wide, when we came to another old field some half a mile, or three-quarters, a width. Here we found, on the opposite side of the field, the enemy drawn up in line of battle, with several pieces of artillery turned

upon our troops, and directing a rapid, heavy and destructive fire both upon the right and left of our lines. At this time, General Wilcox, who had, as senior brigadier, been directing the movements of his brigade, General Pryor's, and mine, was ordered by General Longstreet to move rapidly with his brigade to the right, to the support of General Hood. This left me the senior brigadier on the left of our lines. Very soon after General Wilcox left with his brigade, Major Walton, of General Longstreet's staff, announced to me that Colonel Thomas, commanding a brigade of General Jackson's division, had been sent to reinforce me, and that other troops were coming up for the same purpose. Generals Pender and Archer very soon arrived with their brigades, and I immediately directed my brigade to be moved to the left, so as to extend beyond the enemy's right, and Generals Pender and Archer to form on the right of my brigade. This was promptly done. Colonel Thomas' brigade was held in reserve, with one regiment of General Pryor's. As soon as our line was formed, an advance was ordered. The whole line moved forward in rapid and gallant style. The enemy fled, after the first well-directed fire, through the woods, in the direction of the stone house. All the pieces of their artillery were left upon the field and captured. These brigades continued the march in pursuit of the enemy. Passing through a skirt of woods, they reached another field, some three-quarters of a mile wide, on the further side of which the enemy were discovered again in line of battle, with one or two pieces of artillery placed upon a commanding eminence, which were turned upon our troops as soon as they made their appearance. These brigades were again put in line of battle in the edge of the woods, and Colonel Thomas was directed to move with his brigade to the left of our line, to prevent a flank movement by the enemy and their reinforcements from coming up a road running on our left and extending in front to the turnpike near the stone house. These dispositions having been made, our lines advanced. The enemy fled precipitately, doing us no injury except with their artillery, scarcely returning the fire of our infantry. Having driven them from this position, any further movement was prevented by the darkness of the night. It was now fully dark, and our troops bivouacked upon the ground until morning.

The enemy's artillery was served with great skill and effect upon our troops during the entire engagement, to which our greatest loss on the left must be attributed. Our troops, whose conduct came under my observation, behaved with great coolness and courage during the whole engagement, which lasted about four hours. The Dixie battery, under command of Captain Chaplain, attached to my brigade, was placed on the left of the turnpike, near the village of Groveton, where it performed good service during the day.

When General Wilcox left the field, and the command of the troops on the left devolved on me, I placed the command of my immediate brigade under Colonel Posey, who was the senior colonel present.

To the members of my staff, who were with me on the field, Cap-

tain Barksdale, Lieutenant Parker, and Captain C. N. Featherston, I feel indebted for their efficiency and promptness in executing my orders.

The list of the casualties in my brigade is herewith transmitted, as well as lists of those who particularly distinguished themselves during the engagement.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. S. FEATHERSTON,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

# REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL BENNING OF ACTION AT THOROUGHFARE GAP.

HEADQUARTERS TOOMBS' BRIGADE,  
Camp near Winches'er, October 7, 1862. }

Major A. COWARD, A. A. G.:

MAJOR: I respectfully submit to you the following report of the part taken in the action at Thoroughfare Gap, on the 28th of August last, by the brigade, which, in the necessary absence of General Toombs, I commanded, as the officer next to him in rank:

The brigade marched into the gap from Salem by the left flank. This threw the twentieth Georgia in front, the second Georgia next, the fifteenth Georgia next, and the seventeenth Georgia in the rear. When it entered the gap, the enemy were pouring into the gap shot and shell on the south side from two or three batteries, so situated as to sweep much of the railroad and more of the turnpike on that side. Soon after the twentieth came under this fire, I was ordered, by General D. R. Jones, to take two of the regiments and to seize and hold the point of the mountain on the right of the gap. This mountain terminated quite abruptly at the gap, and was high enough to command its whole outlet, as well as most of the approaches on the side of the enemy. On both sides the mountain was very steep, and it was covered with a dense undergrowth of stiff bushes, mostly ivy.

As soon as I received the order, I sent forward the twentieth, under Major Waddell, to the point indicated, and went back for the next regiment, the second, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Holmes, and ordered him to follow the twentieth as quickly as possible. The second was then on the railroad, and separated some little distance from the twentieth, and the descent down the embankment of the railroad was difficult. The consequence was that the regiment did not reach the point from which the twentieth had started until the latter was out of sight. Colonel Holmes, consequently, halted there for directions. Meantime I had, as soon as I gave him the order, galloped forward to the twentieth, which I overtook double-quicKing towards the mountain through a field, exposed to a hot fire from the enemy's batteries. As soon as it reached the foot of the mountain, it was formed in line of battle, and preceded at a short distance by a company of skirmishers, under Lieutenant Thomas, it commenced the ascent. This, though the ground in some places was almost precipitous and everywhere was covered with stiff bushes, it accomplished at a rapid gait. And it was well that it did so, for, when the skirmishers reached the summit, the enemy's skirmishers, supported by a line of infantry, were in sight, coming up on the other side. Fire was immediately opened on him by our skirmishers, and by the time the regiment itself arrived at the summit, short as that was, the enemy's skirmishers had commenced falling back, and directly their supporting line also withdrew and left us in possession of the mountain. If the enemy had succeeded in

seizing this mountain, he would have had complete command of the gap. Very soon afterwards his batteries commenced playing on the mountain. This they continued to do, short intervals excepted, until the close of the action.

The company of skirmishers was then posted as pickets down the side of the mountain. In a short time, they observed the enemy endeavoring to place a battery on the right of the outlet of the gap, at a point from which it could have commanded the south side of the gap as entirely as the batteries already established commanded the north side. This movement of the enemy was reported to me by Major Waddell, who, at the same time, suggested the propriety of sending forward the men of the regiment who were armed with long-range guns to fire on the enemy's party engaged in planting this battery. At once I adopted the suggestion. These men, numbering, I think, not more than thirty, immediately took such positions in front as they could find, from which the enemy's party was visible, and, at about four or five hundred yards, opened fire on it. Just at this time Colonel Holmes, with the second, came up, he having received the directions he halted for from General Jones, and I ordered those of his men who were armed with longe-range guns, about ten or twelve, to join the others so armed. The enemy withstood the fire from these guns with much obstinacy, the position being evidently one of the very highest value to him. Finally, however, he gave up the attempt to establish the battery and carried off his guns. But in a short time the attempt was renewed. This time it was soon abandoned, under our stinging fire.

I beg leave to say that, if this battery had been once established, the effect would have been to give the enemy complete command of both sides of the gap and a great distance into it, and also of the part of the mountain on which our two regiments were posted. It is obvious that from positions such as these he could not have been driven, except at a great cost of one of two things—time or blood—neither of which did the state of affairs then existing admit of paying.

The second Georgia was ordered by me to take post on the right of the twentieth and throw out pickets as far to the front as possible. This order was admirably executed by Lieutenant Colonel Holmes, who posted each picket himself, in person, and far down the mountain side. The two regiments were small, the second very small, and, when stretched to the utmost, they were far from being long enough to occupy the line required by the ground, and therefore the right flank was still without protection. I directed Colonel Holmes to reconnoitre the ground in his front as far forward as he could, and, if he found the way clear, to advance his pickets as skirmishers out of the wood into an open ravine behind the house at the foot of the mountain, the ravine being perpendicular to the mountain and running far enough into the field for its mouth to be nearly or quite opposite the left flank of the enemy's battery. In about a half an hour, he had made the reconnaissance and had got his skirmishers into the ravine.

I then directed him to place his regiment where the skirmishers were, and to send these beyond the house to the crest of the ravine

ridge, from which crest the enemy were visible, and then to post his regiment in line behind them and near them. All these orders were executed by him with great promptness and judgment. After giving him these orders, I put the twentieth in motion to connect with him on his left. This movement was completed at about sunset. Thus the two regiments had swung around so that their right was now on the flank of the enemy. Soon after the new line of pickets showed their heads on the crest of the flanking ridge in the field, the enemy ceased firing and moved to his rear with his whole force. The two regiments remained in their last position, without any change, until after night, as I had received an order, while they were taking up that position, from General Jones to support General Drayton in an attack which he was about to make on the enemy from the front. The retreat of the enemy prevented that attack from being made.

The conduct of both officers and men was everything that could be desired, and to particularize any of either would, I almost fear, be doing injustice to the rest. I will, however, venture to say that the conduct of Lieutenant Colonel Holmes, Major Waddell, Captain Seago, second in command of the twentieth, and Lieutenant Thomas, commanding its skirmishers, especially of Colonel Holmes, repeatedly attracted my admiration.

The two other regiments, the fifteenth and seventeenth, ceased to be under my immediate command after I was ordered to seize and hold the mountain. I am certain, however, from trustworthy information, that they well performed the part assigned them, which was to remain passive in their place, in the gorge, whilst the action was going on in front. They did so. This place was much exposed to the shells of the enemy, from which they suffered considerably.

I am, Major, your obedient servant,

HENRY L. BENNING,

*Colonel Seventeen<sup>th</sup> Georgia, commanding Toombs' Brigade.*

N. B.—Thoroughfare and Manassas are put in a single report for the twentieth Georgia by Major Waddell, who commanded the regiment. That report accompanies my Manassas report.

HENRY L. BENNING,

*Colonel commanding Brigade.*

# REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL BENNING OF SECOND BATTLE OF MANASSAS.

HEADQUARTERS TOOMBS' BRIGADE,  
Camp near Winchester, October 8, 1862. } •

Major COWARD, A. A. G.:

MAJOR: Of the part borne in the second battle of Manassas, on the 30th of August last, by this brigade, which, in the compulsory absence of General Toombs until late in the battle, I carried into action, I respectfully submit to you the following report:

At about four o'clock, P. M., of the 30th of August, in obedience to the order of General D. R. Jones, I put the brigade in line of battle, with its right resting on the road from Gainesville to Manassas, and its left towards the right of General Kemper's command. Shortly afterwards I was ordered by General Jones to advance in line of battle, keeping my distance from General Kemper. I ordered the brigade accordingly to advance, which it did for a mile and a half or two miles, when it encountered the enemy's infantry. This advance was through fields, and for a great part of the way under the shell of the enemy's artillery. When the line reached the Chinn house, its position was such that the twentieth Georgia regiment had to go to the left of that house, and the other regiments, the second Georgia, the fifteenth Georgia and the seventeenth Georgia, to its right. This caused a wide separation of the twentieth from them. As the twentieth was passing the house, some officers of other commands met them, crying "come this way; your aid is needed; the enemy are close by." This drew me to the twentieth, and, when the regiment passed the house, I discovered the enemy a few hundred yards distant, almost in our front, but a little to our left, in a pine thicket. To that thicket I carried the regiment, and, on reaching it, ordered them to charge it. The pines were found to be very dense, and some of them of large size for a second growth. The regiment obeyed the order with alacrity, and advanced with as much alacrity as the thicket would admit of, receiving a heavy fire from the enemy, and returning it without halting. The thicket proved to be one of considerable length, with its left resting on the dry bed of a small stream or branch. The enemy fell back as we advanced, until we reached its lower end. There we obtained a good view of them, and saw them running in complete rout, a huddled mass. From their appearance, there must have been several regiments of them. They soon got out of sight by the speed they made under the fire in their rear. But on emerging into the open ground, we also discovered a battery on the opposite side of the dry branch to which I have referred, and not more than four hundred yards off, which, the thicket being then clear of its own troops, opened its whole fire on us. I reflected a moment on what was best to be done. It appeared to me that to stay where we were was certain destruction; to retreat would be exposing

ourselves for a long distance to the enemy's shells, and might have other worse effects. I thought that upon the whole it was better to try to take the battery, especially as I could not see any infantry support near it. I determined to make the attempt, and accordingly gave the order to charge the battery. This order was obeyed with a shout, and on the regiment went, at a run. At about fifty or sixty yards from the front of the battery the level branch bottom terminated, and the ascent of the hill on which the battery was placed commenced. The ascent, for a short distance, was rather steep, and then was considerably less so up to the guns, so that men lying down at the foot of the hill would be protected, by the intervening little crest, from the battery's fire. When the regiment reached the foot of the hill I ordered them to halt and lie down, to recover their breath a little. This they did. In about five minutes, during which a terrific storm of missiles was passing just over their heads, I ordered them to rise and take the battery. They rose at the word, and quickly advanced up the hill and beyond the crest, and some of them almost up to the guns. Whilst, however, we had been resting at the foot of the hill the enemy had not been idle. They had got several pieces into position on our right flank, at a short distance from us, and with these they also opened upon us, thus subjecting us to a fire both in front and flank. This was not all. Heavy infantry supports, though not to be seen when the charge was ordered at the thicket, had now become visible, in close proximity to the battery in our front. No supports to us were anywhere in sight. Under these circumstances, I thought it would be madness to let the regiment go on; that if they took the battery they would not be able to hold it, and therefore would, after taking it, either have to retreat or all be captured or exterminated. I preferred to fall back at once, although some of the men were almost up to the guns. I accordingly gave the order to fall back. And then the regiment, in tolerable order, fell back about two hundred yards, under a terrific fire from both of the batteries and from the infantry supports. When it came to the dry bed of the branch already mentioned, then I halted it, and ordered the men to lie down in the bed of the branch, and thus get as much protection from the enemy's fire as possible, and at the same time be in a position from which they could return that fire with some effect. This they did.

Whilst the regiment was charging through the pine thicket, and when it had gotten about half way through it, I discovered, close to our left, near the edge of the thicket, by the branch, two or three of the enemy's pieces of artillery, completely abandoned. When or why these were abandoned I do not know. But it is certain that, abandoned at whatever time and for whatever cause they might be, they were not captured guns as long as the large pine thicket close by them was full of the enemy's infantry to guard and protect them. These guns, therefore, I respectfully submit, the twentieth Georgia is entitled to the credit of taking. After disposing of the regiment as aforesaid in the bed of the branch, I thought it was time for me to

leave it and seek the other regiments of the brigade and give them my services.

I accordingly left the twentieth, and was with it no more during the battle. It will be seen, however, from the report of Major Waddell, who commanded the regiment, that it continued to fight to the last, and not without effect.

I cannot close this notice of the part taken by the twentieth in the battle without asking leave to bestow the tribute of my warmest admiration upon the conduct of both officers and men. It was really brilliant; and the name of every officer and of every man deserves to be known, but I have room only for the officers. They are: Major J. D. Waddell, commanding regiment; Captain E. M. Seago, second in command; Lieutenant W. N. Huchins, acting adjutant; company A, Captain A. B. Ross and Lieutenant W. W. Brazeal; company B, Captain Mitchell; Lieutenant J. M. Granberry, wounded; company C, Captain W. Y. Dearry, wounded, Lieutenant Robert Jordan and Lieutenant J. H. Spier, killed; company D, Captain S. W. Blance, Lieutenant J. L. Carter and Lieutenant J. S. Hammock, wounded; company K, Lieutenant George F. Adams and Lieutenant L. W. Davis; company E, Captain R. D. Little and Lieutenant J. A. Maddon; company L, Lieutenants G. S. Thomas, W. L. Abbott and J. R. Richards; company G, Lieutenant T. S. Fontaine, wounded; company H, Lieutenant T. C. Huebreath, killed; company I, Captain C. B. Mines; Lieutenant J. T. Scott, wounded.

The loss of the regiment was heavy. The killed were twenty-two, the wounded one hundred and seven, and the missing six, exclusive of officers. The number carried into action was, exclusive of officers, only three hundred and thirty-five; and of these, nearly one-third were bare-footed, without a piece of leather to their feet. After leaving the twentieth, I went to seek the other three regiments. On passing from the pine thicket into the large field in which they commenced the fight, no troops, except a few small parties, were visible. After some enquiry, I was told by a man, who seemed well informed, that the regiments had gone down on the right, to support Stuart's cavalry in pursuit of the enemy. I galloped in that direction for about a mile and a half, as I thought, when I came in sight of the cavalry, and saw that no infantry was near it. I then returned; and soon after reaching the same field, I observed a brigade approaching, led by a general. To him I advanced, and found him to be General D. R. Jones, accompanied by General Drayton. They were bringing General Drayton's brigade into action. General Jones informed me that the three regiments were then under the immediate command of General Toombs, who had shortly before that time reached the field. I also learned that they were not then engaged in the action, and would not be again; that after a long and hot fight, with heavy loss to the seventeenth, they had been ordered back a little, to be replaced by fresh troops. I concluded, then, that instead of going to the seventeenth, which alone was, by the recent arrival of General Toombs, left me to command, I would report to General Kemper, and ask him to let me serve him as an aid. I did so, and he kindly accepted my

offer, and I remained with him until the battle was over and he left the field.

It will have been perceived that it was impossible for me to have any personal knowledge of the part taken by these three regiments in the action, as I was not with them. I learned, however, from the best sources, that their conduct was excellent—in a high degree promotive of the general happy result on the right, and in the highest degree creditable to themselves. The loss of the seventeenth was very heavy, it being one hundred and one, out of not more than two hundred carried into action. Major Pickett, who commanded the regiment, fell late in the fight, desperately wounded by a ball through the breast. Hardly had Captain Jones, the next in rank, assumed the command before he was killed by a ball through the temple. The second regiment was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Holmes, and the fifteenth by Colonel Willican. Both of these gallant officers have since been killed in battle. They fell at Sharpsburg. Major Pickett's wound has kept him from every kind of duty. The consequence is that we have now, for reports of the conduct of these three regiments, to depend on officers, none of whom, except Captain French, was in command during the action, and he but for a short time, near its close. It is to be expected, therefore, that the regimental reports must be less full and perfect than they would have been but for those casualties. I beg, however, to invite your particular attention to them, as they fill a vacuum in my own report. They are the reports of Captain Lewis, for the second Georgia; that of Major Shannon, for the fifteenth Georgia, and that of Captain French, for the seventeenth Georgia. It only remains for me to bring to your notice the conduct of the second company of Washington Artillery, commanded by that ever-ready and excellent young officer, Captain Richardson. And in respect to its conduct I must refer you wholly to the report of Captain Richardson himself, for I was, during the whole battle, so otherwise engaged that I could not witness its acting. That action was, however, from all that I hear, admirable.

I am, Major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
 HENRY L. BENNING,  
*Colonel commanding Toombs' brigade.*

time, from the right, with the second Mississippi. While in this position, the enemy advanced on the right of the house, but was repulsed by a well directed and destructive fire from the sixth North Carolina and fourth Alabama. The eleventh Mississippi not coming up, I united the sixth North Carolina and fourth Alabama with the second Mississippi, and moved upon the battery, which, taking time by the forelock, escaped when the infantry was beaten. The enemy's wounded and a few prisoners were left in our hands. I continued the advance beyond Dogan's house, driving the enemy backward until after dark, when, by General Longstreet's order, I halted for the night. At daylight on the 31st nothing was to be seen of the enemy, except evidences of a precipitate retreat.

A mistake in the delivery of my order to the eleventh Mississippi regiment, to advance on the left of the Warrenton turnpike, caused it to move to the right, near Chinn's house, and, by this means, it was detached from the rest of my command. It advanced with the troops in that part of the field, fighting gallantly and incurring heavy loss, and at night rested on our most advanced line. Captain Reilly's battery was detached from the brigade, and, together with the other batteries of the division, was placed under command of Major Fobel, chief of artillery of the division. Following closely after the infantry, the batteries contributed their full share to the success of the day.

In both actions the conduct of the troops was admirable. On the 30th their manœuvres, under severe fire, were characterized by the promptness and precision of veterans—no disorganization or confusion occurring while in action. This was due, in a great measure, to the efficiency of my field and staff officers. Colonel Liddell, of the eleventh, and Colonel Stone, of the second Mississippi, Lieutenant Colonel McLemore, fourth Alabama, and Major Webb, sixth North Carolina, commanding regiments, handled their men with consummate ability. The officers of my personal staff, Lieutenants Terrell and Cussons, rendered the most valuable service, discharging every duty faithfully and gallantly. Lieutenant Cussons was captured by the enemy while on a reconnaissance in front of the lines. Privates Smith, fourth Alabama, and Sharpe, Hampton legion, acting as officers, also contributed valuable assistance.

The following is a recapitulation of the loss in the several regiments composing the brigade, as shown by the accompanying lists of casualties:

	Killed.	Wounded.
Fourth Alabama,	19	44
Eleventh Mississippi,	9	69
Sixth North Carolina,	6	64
Second Mississippi,	22	87
	—	—
	56	264

I am, Captain, very respectfully,

E. M. LAW,  
Colonel commanding Third Brigade.

# REPORT OF COLONEL E. M. LAW OF BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, }  
October 2, 1862. }

Captain W. H. SELLERS,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

SIR: I have the honor to report the part taken by my command in the engagements at Sharpsburg, Maryland, on the 16th and 17th of September:

When the army arrived at the heights, on the south side of Antietam river, on the morning of the 15th, I was ordered to take position about one mile from Sharpsburg, on the Hagerstown turnpike. The right of my brigade rested at St. Mumma's church, and the line extended along the turnpike, in the edge of a wood which bordered it on the south-west. Across the road (on the northeast) was an open field, a quarter of a mile in width, extending along the whole front of the line and beyond it about six hundred yards. This open space was bounded on the northeast (to my front) and northwest (to my left) by woods, an opening being at the north corner.

Late in the afternoon of the 16th, the enemy's skirmishers advanced into the wood in front of my position. They were held in check by my riflemen and the Texas skirmishers. In the meantime, I was ordered by General Hood, commanding the division, to move forward and occupy the edge of the wood in which the skirmishing was going on. This was quickly accomplished, and the enemy was driven at dark to the further side of the wood towards the Antietam. My brigade was relieved during the night and moved, with the rest of General Hood's command, to the wood in rear of St. Mumma's church.

Soon after daylight, on the 17th, the attack of the enemy commenced: The battle had lasted about an hour and a half, when I was ordered to move forward into the open field across the turnpike. On reaching the road, I found but few of our troops on the field and these seemed to be in much confusion, but still opposing the advance of the enemy's dense masses with determination. Throwing the brigade at once into line of battle, facing northward, I gave the order to advance. The Texas brigade, Colonel Wofford, had, in the meantime, come into line on my left, and the two brigades now moved forward together. The enemy, who had by this time advanced half way across the field and had planted a heavy battery at the north end of it, began to give way before us, though in vastly superior force. The fifth Texas regiment, which had been sent over to my right, and the fourth Alabama, pushed into the wood in which the skirmishing had taken place the evening previous, and drove the enemy through and beyond it. The other regiments of my command continued steadily to advance in the open ground, driving the enemy, in confusion, from and

REPORT OF COLONEL E. M. LAW OF SECOND BATTLE  
OF MANASSAS.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, *September 10, 1862.*

Captain W. H. SELLERS,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the participation of the brigade under my command in the action of Friday and Saturday, 29th and 30th August:

Leaving Thoroughfare Gap at sunrise, on the 29th, the brigade marched in the direction of Manassas Junction. At Gainesville, on the Warrenton turnpike, the line of march changed abruptly to the left, along the turnpike, in the direction of Centreville. On arriving about midway between Gainesville and the stone house, which is situated at the junction of the turnpike and the Sudley ford road, I was ordered by Brigadier General Hood, commanding the division, to form the brigade in line of battle to the left of the turnpike and almost at right angles with it, the right resting on the road and the left connecting with General Jackson's line. The Texas brigade had been previously formed on the right of the road, its left joining my right. With a strong line of riflemen in front, which drove the enemy's skirmishers as it advanced, the brigade moved forward, accompanied by Generals Longstreet and Hood, until it reached a commanding position in front of the enemy, about three-fourths of a mile from Dogan's house, which seemed to be the centre of his position. At this point, a severe artillery fire was opened by the enemy's batteries. A halt was ordered, and the troops remained in position until our artillery could be brought forward. Our batteries took position on a ridge to my left and rear, and opened fire with marked effect upon the enemy.

The fire of the artillery and skirmishers continued, almost without intermission, until near four o'clock, P. M., when heavy musketry on my left announced an attack of the enemy on General Jackson's position. Soon after this attack commenced, a brigade of General Jackson's command moved out of the wood on my left, drove the enemy from his position on the bridge, to the left of the hamlet of Groveton, and captured a piece of artillery posted there. I immediately moved my line forward as far as Groveton, where it was halted on a line with the troops to my left.

At about six o'clock, a Federal battery, supported by a large body of infantry and some cavalry, was advanced along the turnpike to within four hundred yards of our position. The guns had scarcely unlimbered, when I was ordered by General Hood to charge. Moving rapidly forward, the brigade came first under fire of the battery, then in range of the enemy's infantry. Delivering volley after volley, my men continued a rapid and uninterrupted advance upon the battery and its supports. As they approached the guns, three of them were

limbered up and carried off at a run, along the turnpike. One remained, and continued to fire until my men were so near it as to have their faces burnt by its discharges. Without faltering, they pressed forward and the piece was taken. At this point, a flanking fire was opened upon my right by a body of the enemy, which was advancing on the opposite side of the road and passing to my right and rear. I at once formed a portion of the second Mississippi regiment along the road and at right angles to the line of advance, and returned the fire with effect, the enemy breaking and retiring. The second Mississippi now pressed forward beyond the road, and, together with the Texas brigade on the right, cleared the field of the enemy. Meantime, on the left, my other regiments, fourth Alabama, eleventh Mississippi and sixth North Carolina, reinforced by the twenty-third South Carolina, were advancing and driving the enemy before them. The advance was continued until darkness prevented further operations. I ordered a halt, and established my line across the turnpike, half a mile from the position whence the advance began. A charge of cavalry on the road and an infantry attack on the extreme left were made after dark. Both were easily repulsed.

The opposing force of the enemy, as I learned from captured officers, consisted of General King's division, of four brigades, and a battery of howitzers. One piece was captured and about one hundred prisoners. Among the prisoners were Captain Judson, assistant adjutant general to General Hatch, and Captain Garish, of the battery.

During the night of the 20th, under orders from General Hood, I resumed the position to the rear of Groveton, which I had occupied in the morning. At daylight on the 30th, the enemy advanced a heavy line of skirmishers towards this point. These were met by my riflemen and those from the Texas brigade, and sharp skirmishing continued until about three o'clock in the afternoon, when the main attack of the enemy began. This attack, which was made by General Morrell's Federal division on General Jackson's right, in full view of my position, was no sooner repulsed than the whole line was ordered forward, and my brigade advanced to Groveton, in support of a battery which was placed at that point. Here it remained for half an hour or more, under a terrific fire of artillery, when I received orders from General Hood to move across the turnpike to the left of the Texas brigade. On reaching an eminence a few hundred yards to the right of the road, which commanded a view of the field, I perceived large numbers of our troops pressing in to the right, towards the Blackburn ford road. Unable to distinguish the locality of the Texas brigade, and seeing that the enemy was pushing a heavy force into the ravine and pine thickets directly in front of me and just below Dogan's house, apparently for the purpose of securing their formidable battery posted there, I carried forward three regiments to that point. Placing the sixth North Carolina and fourth Alabama in the pines, and the second Mississippi on their left and at the foot of the hill on which the house is situated, I waited a short time for the eleventh Mississippi, which had been directed to move upon the battery from the left of the turnpike, intending to attack at the same

beyond his guns. So far we had been entirely successful, and everything promised a decisive victory. It is true that strong support was needed to follow up our success, but this I expected every moment. At this stage of the battle, a powerful Federal force (ten times our number) of fresh troops was thrown in our front. Our losses up to this time had been very heavy; the troops now confronting the enemy were insufficient to cover properly one-fourth of the line of battle; our ammunition was expended; the men had been fighting long and desperately, and were exhausted from want of food and rest. Still they held their ground, many of them using such ammunition as they could obtain from the bodies of our own and the enemy's dead and wounded. It was evident that this state of affairs could not long continue. No support was at hand. To remain stationary, or advance without it, would have caused a useless butchery, and I adopted the only alternative, that of falling back to the wood from which I had first advanced. The enemy followed very slowly and cautiously. Under direction of General Hood, I reformed my brigade in the rear of St. Mumma's church, and together with the Texas brigade, which had also retired, again confronted the enemy, who seemed to hesitate to enter the wood. During this delay, reinforcements arrived and the brigade was relieved for the purpose of obtaining ammunition. At one o'clock, P. M., having been supplied with ammunition, I was again ordered to the field, and took position in the wood near the church. Here the brigade remained, under an incessant cannonade, until near night-fall, when it was moved half a mile nearer the town of Sharpsburg, where it lay during the night and the following day.

The good conduct of my brigade in this battle has not been surpassed by it in any previous engagement. Weak and exhausted as they were, and fighting against fearful odds, the troops accomplished and endured all that was within the limits of human capacity. Our loss, in proportion to the numbers engaged, was extremely heavy. The officers suffered severely. Colonel Liddell, the gallant and beloved commander of the fourth Mississippi regiment, fell mortally wounded; Lieutenant Colonel Butler, of the same regiment, received a painful wound, and Major Evans was killed. Colonel Stone, Lieutenant Colonel Humphries and Major Blair, of the second Mississippi, were all wounded, while leading that distinguished regiment in the charge. Major Webb, commanding sixth North Carolina, Captain Tate, an acting field officer of the same, and Captain Scruggs, commanding fourth Alabama, received wounds while gallantly discharging their duty. The members of my staff, Lieutenant Terrell, A. A. G., Captain Kirkman, Lieutenant Law, of the Citadel Academy, and private Smith, fourth Alabama, as usual, performed every duty bravely and efficiently.

I enclose list of casualties.

I am, Captain, very respectfully,

E. M. LAW,  
Colonel commanding Brigade.

REPORT OF COLONEL J. WALKER, COMMANDING JENKINS' BRIGADE, OF BATTLE OF BOONSBORO'.

HEADQUARTERS JENKINS' BRIGADE,  
Camp near Winchester, Oct. 24, 1862.

Colonel ROBERT JOHNSON:

SIR : The division of General D. R. Jones having, by a forced march from Hagerstown, reached Boonsboro', Maryland, near South Mountain, about four o'clock on Sunday evening, September 14th, was immediately thrown forward to the support of the troops engaged with the enemy on the mountain. Passing through Boonsboro' and crossing a branch, this brigade, in conjunction with General Garnett's, marched by the right flank to a church, some mile and a half to the right and south of the turnpike, and then filed off to the left, about one mile, to the foot of the mountain. About the time we reached that position, the firing having pretty well ceased, the two brigades about-faced, marched back within half a mile of the turnpike and filed off to the right, and formed in line of battle midway up the mountain, with General Garnett's brigade on my left. Having thrown out skirmishers preparatory to an advance, I was ordered by General Jones to move the brigade along the mountain to the White House hotel, on the turnpike, at the summit of the pass. Upon reaching the hotel, I posted the brigade a little in advance of it and to the left of the turnpike. Some ten minutes afterwards, by order of General Jones, I moved the brigade further up the mountain and obliquely to the right, in the direction of Middleburg, and formed it into line of battle at the foot of the hill, where a fierce fight was raging. The first regiment South Carolina volunteers, Lieutenant Colonel D. Livingston; the sixth regiment South Carolina volunteers, Lieutenant Colonel J. M. Steadman, and the fifth regiment South Carolina volunteers, Captain T. C. Beckham commanding, were advanced some two hundred yards to the front, behind a stone fence, where they engaged in a desultory fire with the enemy until dark, when the brigade was withdrawn to the hotel. Ordered by General Jones to cover the withdrawal of the troops from this portion of the field, I advanced the second rifle regiment South Carolina volunteers some distance down the turnpike, towards Middleburg, and threw out a heavy force of skirmishers. This position was held by the brigade until about four o'clock, A. M., 15th September, when it was relieved by the cavalry brigade of General Fitzhugh Lee, and rejoined the command of General Jones at Sharpsburg.

Although but partially engaged, I commend the conduct of the officers and privates of the brigade, with but one exception, which is as mortifying to the feelings of a Carolinian, as it is unworthy of the flag they bear and the cause which they represent. Lieutenant Colonel Livingston, of the first regiment South Carolina volunteers, reports that company A did not enter the fight, shamefully

deserting the regiment while marching through the gap. Why charges have not been preferred against officers and privates for cowardice, has not been explained.

In this action the loss of the brigade was as follows:

<i>Regiments.</i>	<i>Killed.</i>	<i>Wounded.</i>
Palmetto Sharpshooters,	0	2
First regiment S. Carolina volunteers,	4	15
Second regiment rifles S. Carolina vols.,	0	1
Fourth battalion,	0	0
Fifth regiment S. Carolina volunteers,	0	6
Sixth     "     "     "     "	2	5
 Total,	 3	 29

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH WALKER,  
*Colonel commanding Jenkins' Brigade.*

REPORT OF COLONEL WALKER, COMMANDING JENKINS'  
BRIGADE, OF BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

HEADQUARTERS JENKINS' BRIGADE,  
*Camp near Winchester, Virginia, October 24, 1862.*

Colonel ROBERT JOHNSON:

SIR: By a rapid march from Boonsboro', this brigade reached Sharpsburg, Maryland, about eleven o'clock, A. M., on the 15th of September, and took position, in line of battle, on an eminence in front of the town and to the right of the turnpike. By order of General Jones, it moved, late in the evening, across a ravine, to the right, with Kemper's Garnett's and Drayton's brigades, where it remained, under a heavy fire of shot and shell, until three o'clock in the evening of the 17th, when it moved back, by order of General Jones, and occupied its first position, in support of Captain Moody's battery and a company of the Washington artillery, Captain Squiers, both from Louisiana. Here the brigade endured a terrific fire of shot and shell for some half hour, when, the ammunition of the artillery having been exhausted, it advanced some four hundred yards to an apple orchard, under a heavy fire of artillery and small arms. Perceiving the enemy in force in several positions, from any of which we were assailable, I threw out the first, fifth and sixth regiments of South Carolina volunteers to oppose him on the left, and the Palmetto sharpshooters and the second regiment rifles, South Carolina volunteers, to meet him in the centre and on the right. From this position we continued to pour a destructive fire into the ranks of the enemy, at short range, until he recoiled and retreated out of sight among the timber on Antietam creek.

At this juncture, perceiving that the enemy had advanced three heavy columns some four hundred yards in rear of the brigade and to the right, across a ravine leading up from the creek, and was steadily driving back the brigades of Generals Kemper and Drayton, I moved this brigade into line parallel with the turnpike and ravine, and near to the latter, and opened a destructive enfilade fire upon the enemy, which assisted materially in driving back his columns.

Changing the front of the brigade again towards Antietam creek, and at right angles to the turnpike and ravine, I threw forward a line of skirmishers to a fence, near to the timber on the creek, and bivouacked for the night. This position the brigade, alone and unsupported, held during the 18th, burying the dead and caring for the wounded—the skirmishers, in the meanwhile, keeping up a brisk fire upon the enemy. Just after dark on the 18th, I received orders from General D. R. Jones to cover the retreat of his division. Strengthening my line of pickets and extending it further to the right and left, I held the position until nearly daylight on the morning of the 19th of September, when I was relieved by the cavalry brigade of General Fitzhugh Lee, and withdrew the brigade across the Potomac,

effecting the passage a little after sunrise, in perfect safety. The loss of the brigade in killed and wounded was heavy, in view of the number carried into action, and was as follows:

	Killed.	Wounded.
Palmetto Sharpshooters, - - - - -	8	57
First regiment South Carolina volunteers, - - - - -	4	36
Second regiment rifles, S. Carolina vols., - - - - -	4	17
Fifth regiment South Carolina volunteers, - - - - -	6	27
Sixth regiment South Carolina volunteers, - - - - -	4	47
Fourth battalion South Carolina volunteers, - - - - -	..	..
Total, - - - - -	26	184

In this action Captains Lee and Harbin, of the Palmetto Sharpshooters, were killed. They were brave and promising officers. Lieutenant Colonel Livingston, of the first regiment; Captain Cantry, commanding sixth regiment; Lieutenant McFadden, of the sixth; and Lieutenant W. N. Majors and Lieutenant H. H. Thomson, of the Palmetto Sharpshooters, were seriously wounded. I commend to your favorable notice Captains Squiers and Moody, who handled their guns with a skill, daring and endurance seldom equalled and never surpassed. The officers and men of the several regiments are worthy of the highest praise for their coolness and daring in battle, and their patient endurance of hunger and fatigue. I regret, however, to be called again to refer to the conduct of a large portion of the officers and privates of the first regiment South Carolina volunteers, in this battle, in terms of censure. The commanding officer reports that the regiment entered the fight with one hundred and six men, rank and file, lost forty men killed and wounded, and at the close of the day but fifteen enlisted men and one commissioned officer answered to their names. Such officers are a disgrace to the service and unworthy to wear a sword, for I must believe that their desertion of their companies alone induced such conduct upon the part of their privates. If such conduct is not checked by exemplary punishment, the efficiency of the regiment will be destroyed.

I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH WALKER,  
Colonel commanding Jenkins' Brigade.

# REPORT OF COLONEL G. T. ANDERSON, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQ'RS ANDERSON'S BRIGADE, D. R. JONES' DIVISION, }  
September 30th, 1862. }

Major A. COWARD, *A. A. General*:

SIR: I have the honor to forward a report of the actions of my brigade in the affairs at Rappahannock, 23d August, Thoroughfare Gap, August 28th; Manassas, August 30th; Turner's Gap, Maryland, September 14th, and Sharpsburg, September 17th, 1862, with the list of casualties in each engagement:

On the morning of August 23d, I was ordered to support Brigadier General Evans, on the right of our line, our batteries at that time engaging the enemy, who had planted a battery on the hill, near the railroad bridge across the Rappahannock river. I moved my command forward promptly, and reported to General Evans. He first ordered me to advance one regiment, in conjunction with one of his, to storm the hill occupied by the enemy's battery. Before the order was executed, he ordered me to advance my whole brigade in line of battle to the west of a wooded slope, in front and to the right of this hill. On reaching this position, he ordered me to continue to advance, through the open field, towards the hill referred to. The enemy, in the meantime, had withdrawn their battery and crossed the river. On reaching the open field, I saw, in rear of this hill, about one hundred of the enemy, moving by their left flank, and supposed I would have the pleasure of an open field fight, but this small party was all of the enemy I saw on our side of the river, and, long before we were in range of them, they disappeared, and in a few moments the railroad bridge was blown up and set on fire. Continuing to advance across the open field for nearly half a mile under the fire of four batteries, I placed my brigade in line on the field, my left regiment (the eighth Georgia, Lieutenant Colonel Towers, commanding) and the Holcombe legion, of Evans' brigade, occupying the hill where the battery of the enemy had been posted. We remained in this position, my right extending across the open field, for at least five hours, under heavy fire of shell, grape and canister; the officers and men behaving in the most gallant manner. My own horse was killed near to the position the enemy had occupied on the hill. Continuing our march, we reached Thoroughfare Gap August 28th. My brigade was in front. I ordered Colonel Beck, with his regiment, (ninth Georgia,) in advance, and to send forward two companies as skirmishers. Moving in this order, the brigade was halted, by order of General Longstreet, some half mile from the gap, and Colonel Beck ordered to proceed through the gap on a reconnaissance. Proceeding cautiously, he drove a mounted picket before him, killing three of them, and cleared the pass, moving some quarter of a mile beyond, and held his position until attacked and driven back by a whole brigade and a bat-

tery. The brigade was ordered forward, and, moving rapidly to the front, I found Colonel Beck falling back very slowly before the large force of the enemy, and caused him to form his regiment on the right of the railroad, and formed the other regiments on the left as fast as they came up, in the following order: The first Georgia regulars, Major Walker commanding; eighth Georgia, Lieutenant Colonel Towers; seventh Georgia, Colonel Wilson, and eleventh Georgia, Lieut. Colonel Luffman. Having thus formed my line and advanced my skirmishers to the front, I ordered the line to advance, which was done in the most gallant manner, the men climbing the rough mountain sides on their hands and knees, to reach the enemy occupying the crest of the hill, and delivering a murderous fire in their faces as they made the perilous ascent. From the nature of the ground, and the impenetrable thickets of laurel and brush, none of the regiments except the first Georgia, obtained a favorable position; but the regulars succeeded in getting a good position, and inflicted a very severe chastisement on the superior force of the enemy. Captain Patton brought down five with his pistol, killing three of them. The regulars, in this affair, officers and men, behaved with distinguished gallantry, as they have on every occasion in which they have met the enemy, and I only regret that our army is not composed of just such men.

On the 29th of August, we bivouacked in the vicinity of the Manassas battle-ground, but were not engaged during that day.

On the 30th, I was ordered to advance in line of battle, near the Chinn house, and moving in this direction, Lieutenant C. C. Hardwick, A. A. A. General, a noble and gallant officer, was severely wounded in the thigh, and compelled to leave the field. In a few moments my horse was shot under me, leaving me on foot and without an aid. Arriving in front of the Chinn house and perpendicular to it, I found that I must change my front, which I did, making the left the pivot, and then continued my advance, by order of Brigadier General Jones, commanding division. I soon marched to the position to which I was ordered, to the right of Colonel Benning, commanding Toombs' brigade. The men were now in front of the enemy and under a heavy fire of artillery; but with all the coolness of veterans they went to work, and soon drove the brigade in front of them, from the field. A fresh brigade was soon brought up, and the fight resumed with all its intensity; but the men and officers stood to their posts under the most murderous fire I ever witnessed, with the resolve to fall rather than yield. My right flank being exposed, the enemy succeeded so far in turning it, as to enfilade that portion of my line, when I drew back my right, so that I could keep my front to the enemy. Fresh troops coming up, soon after the enemy were again and finally driven from the field, when, with the remnant of my brigade, I moved back a short distance to the rear to rest the men, and finally bivouacked for the night in front of Chinn's. For the desperation of the fights and the fierce tenacity with which my men held the ground, let the list of casualties testify. I can bear testimony to the good conduct and gallantry of the whole brigade, without exception. Seven out of eight

of the field officers, and over fifty company officers being killed and wounded. Among the mortally wounded was Colonel W. T. Wilson, seventh Georgia, who so gallantly led the charge at dam No. 1, near Yorktown, the 16th of April last. Always at the post of duty and danger, he fell with his face to the foe, gallantly cheering his men to the onset. Lieutenant Hardwick, A. A. A. General, had only joined the command the day before, from sick leave, and was wounded before the command was engaged.

In the engagement at Turner's Gap, near Boonsboro', Maryland, my brigade, in conjunction with General Drayton's, was ordered forward to report to Major General D. H. Hill. I found General Hill at the Mountain House, and he conducted us, in person, to the right of our line, and, after giving the necessary orders, left for other parts of the field. Brigadier General Ripley, the next senior officer, was then left in command of the four brigades, viz: Brigadier General G. B. Anderson's, his own, my brigade, and General Drayton's, in line from right to left, as enumerated. Before Drayton had formed his line, General Ripley ordered the whole line to move by the right flank, and about this time, the enemy opened a heavy fire on Drayton. I had, by moving to the right, under General Ripley's order, become separated at least three hundred yards from General Drayton's right, when General R. came by and ordered me to move by the left flank into the wood, which I did, my skirmishers, (the right wing of the Georgia regulars, Captain Wayne commanding,) not having the command to change direction, had continued moving by the flank and uncovered my front. Having moved some distance over the mountain's side, I halted and sent forward to find Captain Wayne, but could not, for the reasons above given, and finding that the fire of the enemy was more to my left than front, I changed front, forward on the left, and had the left wing of the Georgia regulars, under direction of Colonel Magill, deployed as skirmishers, and as I was in the act of advancing to find the enemy, Lieutenant Shellman, adjutant eighth Georgia regiment, reported the enemy as having turned Drayton's right flank, and, being on our left and rear, a few of them were taken prisoners and several of Drayton's men, who had been captured, released.

To prevent the enemy from cutting off my small brigade, being at the time alone, (General Ripley's brigade, on my right, being several hundred yards away, as I found by sending Captain Montgomery, first Georgia regulars, to report for orders, who reported him at least one-fourth of a mile from my right, after a long search,) I ordered my brigade to move by the left flank and recross the road in our original rear, and there reformed my line of battle and was advancing to find the right of Drayton's brigade, when Captain Twiggs and Lieutenant Lamar, first Georgia regulars, in charge of skirmishers, called my attention to the fact that the enemy were crossing the road in considerable force on my left flank. Seeing this myself, and to prevent my left from being turned, I moved by the left, diagonally to the rear, to intercept them, and at this time found General Hood's two brigades coming up to support that part of the line. He engaged

the enemy and drove him back. Not knowing where to find General Ripley or General Drayton, I reported to General Hood for instructions, and was requested by him to hold my position, to protect his left flank, and remained there until drawn off the field after night. In consequence of being separated from Drayton's right, by the order of General Ripley, and having to recross the road to avoid being surrounded, my men were not engaged in the fight, except the first line of skirmishers, under Captain Wayne. For casualties see accompanying lists. Falling back from this place, I was ordered to report to Brigadier General Hood, commanding the rear guard, and remained with him until our arrival at Sharpsburg. I was ordered into position in rear of the Washington artillery, and remained there, except about three hours, being moved to the opposite side of the road for that length of time, until the morning of the 17th. About half-past seven o'clock, A. M., on the 17th, I was ordered to the left to support General Hood, without a guide or direction how to find him. I moved off and directed my course by the sound of the musketry, and succeeded in finding General Hood, who pointed out the position he wished me to occupy. I remained in this position but a few moments; other troops he moved in front of me, and I moved by the left flank, some two hundred yards, and engaged the enemy, and drove them for about half a mile, my men and officers behaving in the most gallant manner. By this time the enemy had disappeared from before us, and, while I was at a different part of the line, some mounted officer, unknown, reported the enemy turning our right flank and ordered the men to fall back, and some confusion was created, but I soon reformed the line and moved to the right, near the first position I had held. From this point I was ordered to the Hagerstown road by a staff officer of General Longstreet, and moved to that place, taking position behind the stone fence, a large number of the enemy being in front of us in a corn-field. In a short time the enemy opened an enfilade fire on my position with long-range artillery, and I was forced to change, moving down the road towards Sharpsburg, under the crest of the hill. At this point I found a six-pounder gun, and, getting a few men to assist in placing it in position, a lieutenant of infantry, whose name or regiment I do not know, served it most beautifully, until the ammunition was exhausted. Parts of several brigades by this time had been collected at this point, and, by direction of General D. H. Hill, were formed in line perpendicularly to and on the right of the road, near the position occupied by Rodes' brigade early in the morning. This was about two or three o'clock, P. M. Placing me in command, General Hill ordered me to occupy the crest of the hill to my right and rear. I moved to the position and sent forward skirmishers, but failed to find the enemy. The enemy opening a cross fire of artillery from the left on us, I moved back to the other position, which was approved by General Hill, who, riding forward to the crest of the hill in our front, called my attention to a line of the enemy advancing, apparently, to attack us. Suffering them to come near us, I ordered my command to charge them, which they did in splendid style and good order, killing and wounding many of the

enemy, taking several prisoners, and routing the remainder. We could not pursue them as far as I wished, because of the severe fire of artillery directed against us from long-range guns, which we could not reach. In this charge parts of Wilcox's, Featherston's and Pryor's brigades participated with mine, and, I am proud to say all, officers and men, behaved admirably.

The eleventh Georgia regiment, Major Little commanding, had been detached at Hagerstown, on the 14th, by order of Brigadier General D. R. Jones, commanding division, and did not join me until the 18th. Major Little, with five companies, reached Sharpsburg on the morning of the 17th, and participated in the fight on our right, under command of Brigadier General Toombs. General D. R. Jones speaks in high terms of their good conduct. I forward Major Little's report, leaving it to the officers under whose command he fought to do him and his men justice.

The battery attached to my brigade, the Wise artillery, Captain J. S. Brown commanding, was not with me, nor have I received any report from it. Captain Brown was severely wounded by a musket ball passing entirely through his foot.

I can but say that, in each of these engagements, all the officers and men of the brigade, with a few exceptions, have behaved in the most gallant manner, nearly the whole of each action being conducted under my own eye. I know of no particular case of individual bravery, and can make no discrimination where all have done so well, it appearing to be the determination of every one to do his whole duty, as the list of casualties accompanying this report will testify, showing a loss of eight hundred and ninety-four killed, wounded and missing, out of about two thousand two hundred, with which I reached Gordonsville.

I must express my many obligations to Lieutenant H. L. D. McDaniel, eleventh Georgia regiment, acting assistant adjutant general during the sickness of Lieutenant Hardwick, for his universal good conduct and gallantry. He was relieved by Lieutenant Hardwick on the 28th of August, Lieutenant McDaniel having been appointed assistant quartermaster to his regiment.

Lieutenant Hardwick being wounded on the 30th August, at Chinn's house, Lieutenant Blackwell, eighth Georgia regiment, has filled the position of acting assistant adjutant general very much to my satisfaction, and I have found him at all times prompt and faithful in the discharge of his duties.

I am also under many obligations to Captain Thomas G. Jackson, volunteer aid and acting ordnance officer of the brigade, for his good conduct and ability in the discharge of his duties; and also to Captain Frederick West, volunteer aid, who has been with me since the affair at Thoroughfare Gap, and has nobly and faithfully done his duty.

Many thanks are due to Captain Holliday, assistant quartermaster of the seventh Georgia regiment, for invaluable services, rendered on the banks of the Rappahannock, in the capacity of volunteer aid.

I must also express my obligations to Lieutenant Tennible, ninth Georgia regiment, who aided me, and bore himself gallantly under the murderous fire at Manassas, after Lieutenant Hardwick, acting assistant adjutant general, was wounded.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

GEORGE T. ANDERSON,

*Colonel Eleventh Georgia Volunteers, commanding Brigade.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL TOOMBS.

WASHINGTON, GEORGIA, October 25, 1862.

Brigadier General D. R. JONES:

GENERAL: The day that the army, commanded by General Lee, left Leesburg and marched towards Maryland, you notified me that I was assigned to the command of a division composed of my own brigade, General Drayton's and Colonel G. T. Anderson's brigades. When Major General Longstreet's command arrived within four or five miles of Hagerstown, I was ordered to send forward one of my brigades to that point, take possession of Hagerstown and to hold it until further orders. I asked permission to accompany this brigade, which was granted by Major General Longstreet. I took with me, for the execution of this order, my own brigade, then under the command of Colonel Benning, of the seventeenth Georgia volunteers, leaving Brigadier General Drayton's and Colonel Anderson's brigades with the main body of the army.

On Saturday night, the 13th September, while in command at Hagerstown, I received orders to hold my command in readiness to march at daylight next morning. I received no further orders until about ten o'clock, on Sunday night, the 14th September; I then received orders to march immediately to Sharpsburg, which I did, and reached there before daylight Monday morning. On that day, I received orders from you to detail two regiments from my own brigade, the only one then with me, and to order them to Williamsport, for the protection of the wagon train, which left me with but two regiments only, and one of those (the second Georgia) was very small, having less than one hundred and twenty muskets present for duty. With these two regiments I was ordered by you to occupy the most eligible position I could find on the Antietam river, near the bridge on the road to Harper's Ferry, in order to prevent the enemy from crossing the river. From this position I was ordered to fall back when it should become necessary, by my right flank, and to hold a hill about four hundred yards below the bridge and immediately on the river, as long as it might be practicable, and then to fall back and take position on your right in line of battle, with four other brigades of your command, about six or eight hundred yards in rear of the bridge. With these orders, I took possession of the ground indicated in your orders, on Monday, the 15th of September, with the twentieth Georgia volunteers, commanded by Colonel John B. Cumming, and the second Georgia volunteers, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Holmes, (about four hundred muskets strong,) and both under the immediate command of Colonel Henry L. Benning, commanding the brigade—at this time no notice having been given me of what disposition was intended to be made of the rest of the division, which had been assigned to me. I subsequently understood from you that Anderson's brigade

had been attached to Brigadier General Hood's command, and Brigadier General Drayton's brigade was retained by you in your line of battle on the heights in my rear, except one regiment (the fiftieth Georgia volunteers, Lieutenant Colonel Kearse,) hereafter referred to.

The Antietam river runs comparatively straight from a point about one hundred paces above the bridge to a point about three hundred paces below the bridge, and then curves suddenly around a hill to a ford on a neighborhood road, about six hundred yards to my right and rear. The road from Sharpsburg to Harper's Ferry from the foot of the bridge over the Antietam turns suddenly down the river and runs nearly upon its margin for about three hundred paces, then leaves the river nearly at right angles. Upon examining the position, I found a narrow wood upon the margin of the river, just above the bridge, (an important and commanding position,) occupied by a company of Texans, from Brigadier General Hood's command. I then ordered the twentieth to take position, with its left near the foot of the bridge on the Sharpsburg side, extending down the river near its margin, and the second Georgia, on its right, prolonging the line down to the point where the road on the other side from the mountain approached the river. This required a more open order than was desirable on account of the smallness of the regiments, both together numbering but a little over four hundred muskets.

On Tuesday, you placed under my command the fiftieth Georgia, (Lieutenant Colonel Kearse,) numbering, I should suppose, scarcely one hundred muskets. I ordered this regiment on the right of the second Georgia, extending it in open order, so as to guard a blind plantation road leading to a ford between the lower ford before referred to and the right of the second Georgia volunteers.

On Tuesday evening I received notice of the withdrawal of the company belonging to Brigadier General Hood's brigade from the position on Colonel Cummings' left, above the bridge, and was compelled to detail a company from the twentieth to take its place.

On Wednesday morning I ordered a company from General Jenkins' brigade, whom you had placed under my command, to relieve this company from the twentieth, and occupy its position, that it might resume its position below the bridge. This order was not obeyed, and subsequently I placed the captain and one half of this company between the second Georgia and fiftieth Georgia, and the other half under a lieutenant near the lower ford, to prevent or retard the passage of the enemy at this point. This command held its position with fidelity and firmness until withdrawn by my order. This position was important and had been guarded by a cavalry regiment with an infantry brigade in its rear, up to Tuesday evening, when both were removed to another position on the field of battle and left the crossing unprotected except by the small force I was thus enabled to place there. Finding that the battery belonging to my brigade (Captain Richardson) was placed too far in my rear to render me efficient service in defending the passage at the bridge, I applied to General Longstreet for another battery. He ordered Captain Eubank's to report to me, who was placed in my rear about half way between the

river and Captain Richardson's battery, and rendered efficient service as long as he remained in that position.

The enemy opened on my position with his artillery, on Tuesday evening, and continued it until dark. The damage was but slight. My own skirmishers and the company from General Hood's brigade crossed the river, and were actively engaged with the enemy's skirmishers the most of this day.

On Tuesday night the enemy advanced his artillery and infantry much nearer my position, and on Wednesday morning threw forward his skirmishers and light infantry, in greatly increased numbers, and before eight o'clock, drove in my pickets and advanced with heavy columns to the attack of my position on the bridge. This position was not strong, the ground descended gently to the margin of the river covered with a narrow strip of woods, affording slight protection to the troops; its chief strength lay in the fact that, from the nature of the ground on the other side, the enemy were compelled to approach mainly by the road which led up the river for near three hundred paces, parallel with my line of battle, and distant therefrom from fifty to one hundred and fifty feet, thus exposing his flank to a destructive fire the most of that distance. At between nine and ten o'clock the enemy made his first attempt to carry the bridge by a rapid assault, and was repulsed with great slaughter, and, at irregular intervals, up to about one o'clock, made four other attempts of the same kind, all of which were gallantly met and successfully repulsed by the twentieth and second Georgia.

The fiftieth Georgia and the half company from General Jenkins' brigade, before referred to, were on the right of the second Georgia, rather below the main point of attack, and rendered little or no service in this fierce and bloody struggle. After these repeated and disastrous repulses, the enemy despairing of wresting the bridge from the grasp of its heroic defenders, and thus forcing his passage across the river at this point, turned his attention to the fords before referred to, and commenced moving fresh troops in that direction by his left flank. The old road, by the upper of the two fords referred to, led over a hill on my right and in my rear, which completely commanded my position, and all ingress and egress to and from it, below the bridge. My communications with the rear, above the bridge, were beset with other, but scarcely less difficulties. This approach could have been very successfully defended by a comparatively small force, and it was for this purpose that I so often and urgently asked the aid of a regiment on the day of the battle, not having another man available for that purpose. Not being able to get any reinforcements for the defense of these two fords, and seeing that the enemy was moving upon them to cross, thus enabling him to attack my small force in front, right flank and rear, and my two regiments having been constantly engaged, from early in the morning up to one o'clock, with a vastly superior force of the enemy, aided by three heavy batteries, the commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel Holmes, of the second, having been killed in the action, and the only remaining field officer, Major Harris, being painfully wounded, and fully one half of this

regiment being killed or wounded, and the twentieth having also suffered severely in killed and wounded, and the ammunition of both regiments being nearly exhausted, and Eubank's battery having been withdrawn to the rear nearly two hours before, I deemed it my duty, in pursuance of your original order, to withdraw my command and place it in the position designated by you, opposite the two lower fords, some half mile to the right and front of your line of battle. In pursuance of this order, Colonel Benning, who had commanded the remnant of the brigade during the action with distinguished gallantry and skill, withdrew these gallant regiments to their new position, ready again to confront and battle with the enemy. The fiftieth Georgia and the company from General Jenkins' brigade were at the same time ordered to the same position, and were led back by their respective officers. This change of position was made to my entire satisfaction, and with but small loss in the face of greatly superior numbers. Before these troops had reached their new position, the fifteenth Georgia volunteers, under the command of Colonel Milligan, the seventeenth, under the command of Captain McGregor, of my brigade, Major Little, with five companies of the eleventh Georgia, (Colonel Anderson's brigade,) all of whom had been detached several days before to guard ammunition and other trains, arrived on the field, and were also placed in the new position before designated. The twentieth and second were then ordered to the ammunition train to replenish their cartridge-boxes. Though the bridge and upper ford were thus left open to the enemy, he moved with such extreme caution and slowness that he lost nearly two hours in crossing and getting into action on our side of the river; about which time General A. P. Hill's division arrived from Harper's Ferry. I then received your order that as soon as General Gregg, (of General A. P. Hill's division,) arrived and relieved me, to move my command and take position immediately on your right on the heights then occupied by the rest of your command. Before I was relieved by General Gregg, I received from you another order to move up my command immediately to meet the enemy, who had already commenced his attack upon your position. I immediately put my command in motion, then consisting of the fifteenth and seventeenth Georgia, (lessened by one company from each sent out as skirmishers,) Major Little's battalion of the eleventh, a small number of Kearse's regiment, and on the way I found Colonel Cumming and a part of the twentieth, who had returned from supplying themselves with ammunition, and joined me, and hastened, with all speed, to your position. On my arrival, I found the enemy in possession of the ground I was ordered by you to occupy on your right. He had driven off our troops, captured McIntosh's battery (attached to General Drayton's brigade) and held possession of all the ground from the corn-field on your right, down to the Antietam bridge road, including the eastern suburbs of the town of Sharpsburg. All the troops defending it having been driven back, and retired to the rear or through the town. Under this state of facts, I had instantly to determine either to retreat or fight. A retreat would have left the town of Sharpsburg and General Longstreet's rear open to the enemy, and

was inadmissible. I, therefore, with less than one-fifth of the enemy's numbers, determined to give him battle, and immediately and rapidly formed my line of battle in the road, within one hundred paces of the enemy's lines. While forming in the road, Captain Troupe, my aid, on my extreme left, rallied a portion of General Kemper's brigade who were retiring from the field, attached it to my line of battle, and led them into action with conspicuous gallantry and skill.

As soon as possible, I opened fire upon the enemy's columns, who immediately advanced in good order upon me, until he approached within sixty or eighty paces, when the effectiveness of the fire threw his columns in considerable disorder, upon perceiving which I immediately ordered a charge, which being brilliantly and energetically executed by my whole line, the enemy broke in confusion and fled. McIntosh's battery was recaptured, and our position retaken, within less than thirty minutes after the commencement of this attack upon him. The enemy fled in confusion towards the river and bridge, making two or three efforts to rally, which were soon defeated by the vigorous charges of our troops, aided by Captain Richardson's battery, which I ordered up immediately upon the recovery of the heights, and which, with its accustomed promptness and courage, was rapidly placed in position and action. The enemy, to cover his retreating columns, brought over the bridge a battery, and placed it in position. I ordered Richardson's battery to open upon it, and at the same time ordered the fifteenth and twentieth Georgia forward, who pursued the enemy so close to his guns as to bring them within range of musketry, which compelled his battery, after a few shots, to join his flying infantry, and retreat across the bridge. I desired to pursue the enemy across the river, but being deficient in artillery to meet his heavy batteries on the other side, I sent my aid, Captain Troup, to General Lee, for the purpose of supplying myself, who ordered Captain Squiers to report to me immediately, which he was unable to do, (from not receiving the order in time,) until nearly night, when it was too late to risk the movement. Therefore, I ordered him to hold himself in readiness for the movement in the morning, if the action should be renewed. I then determined to move my troops upon and occupy the position held by me on the river at the beginning of the action; but before the execution of this purpose, I received your order to change my position, and to occupy the heights on the opposite side of the road leading to the bridge from Sharpsburg, on the left of your command, which order was immediately executed, and the troops bivouacked for the night.

I am happy to report that our loss in this last attack was unexpectedly small. Such was the heroic vigor and rapidity of the assault upon the enemy he was panic stricken, and his fire was wild and comparatively harmless. Having been compelled to leave my command before official returns could be brought in, I am unable to state it accurately. Colonel Benning has doubtless, before this time, furnished you with them. Among the casualties of the day I had to deplore the loss of two commanders of regiments. Colonel Milligan, of the fifteenth Georgia, who greatly distinguished himself both at

Manassas and in this action for personal gallantry and efficiency as a soldier and field officer, fell while gallantly leading his regiment in the final charge, (and nearly its close,) which swept the enemy from this part of the field of battle. Lieutenant Colonel Holmes, who commanded the second Georgia volunteers, fell near the close of his heroic defence of the passage of the Antietam; and it is due to him to say that, in my judgment, he has not left in the armies of the Republic a truer or braver soldier, and I have never known a cooler, more efficient; or more skillful field officer. The conduct of the officers and men generally, under my command in the battle of Sharpsburg, was so strongly marked with the noble virtues of the patriot soldier, that a narration of this day's deeds performed by them, however simple and unadorned, if truthful, would seem like the language of extravagant and unmerited eulogy. The reports of the regimental commanders will bring to your attention the meritorious conduct of officers and men, which it might not have been my good fortune to witness; and as I have not the benefit of their reports before me, I shall have to content myself with bringing to your attention the most conspicuous cases of individual merit which fell under my personal observation. Every opportunity for conspicuous gallantry and valuable services which presented itself seemed to be eagerly embraced by those whose good fortune it was to fall in with it. Colonel Benning stood by his brigade on the Antietam, guiding, directing and animating his officers and men, with distinguished coolness, courage and skill; withdrew them from that perilous condition; again led them, with equal skill and courage, in the final conflict with the enemy. He deserves the special consideration of the Government. Colonel Cumming, with marked gallantry and skill, led his regiment throughout the day, and after the long and bloody conflict at the bridge, brought up one of its fragments to the last charge, and was among the foremost in it. Major Harris, of the second, after the fall of Colonel Holmes, though suffering from a painful wound, stood firmly and gallantly by his command during the whole day. Colonel Benning being in command of the brigade, and Lieutenant Colonel Hodges and Major Pickett both being absent from severe wounds received by them in former battles, Captain McGregor led the seventeenth regiment with ability, courage and skill. Major Little led his battalion of the eleventh Georgia with a dashing courage and success which won the admiration of his comrades. The officers and men of his battalion deserve especial mention for their gallantry and good conduct. Captain Richardson and his officers and men, of the company of the Washington Artillery attached to my own brigade, were conspicuous throughout the day for courage and good conduct. Captain Richardson clung to the infantry amid every danger, and, being nobly seconded on every occasion by his officers and men, largely contributed to every success. During the whole connection of this battery with my command, its officers and men have so conducted themselves everywhere—on the march, in the camp and on the battle-field—as to meet and receive my special approbation. The duties of my staff, from the nature and extent of the operations of my

command, and its distance from the main body, were peculiarly arduous and dangerous; and I am much indebted to them for their extraordinary efforts on that occasion. Every difficulty was met by increased energy and exertion, and every increased danger with a higher courage and devotion to duty. During the combat on the river, they were all constantly engaged in arduous and dangerous duties. In the final conflict, Captain Troup was on the left of my line, Captain DuBose on my right, Cadet Lamar accompanied me personally, and Captain Hill, of the first Georgia regulars, (assigned to me for special duty,) and Lieutenant Grant, were actively executing my orders in carrying orders and bringing up troops. It happened to my aid, Captain J. R. Troup, on three occasions during the day, while in the performance of his ordinary duties, to pass troops which had broken and left their positions, on all of which occasions he rallied them with great skill and energy, succeeded on one occasion in leading them back into position, and on another inspired them with his own courage and enthusiasm, and led them successfully in the charge on the enemy's columns. Captain Troup's conduct throughout the day was conspicuous for ability and courage, and is entitled to marked and special approbation. The conduct of one of my couriers, Mr. Thomas Paschal, of Cobb's legion, deserves special mention for his courage and fidelity to duty, under circumstances of peculiar difficulties and danger.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. TOOMBS.

# REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL GARNETT OF BATTLE OF BOONSBORO'.

CAMP NEAR CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, }  
November 6th, 1862. }

Major A. COWARD,

*A. A. G. to Brigadier General D. R. Jones:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by Pickett's brigade, of General D. R. Jones' division, which I commanded, in the battle of Boonsboro:

This command, consisting of the eighth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twenty-eighth and fifty-sixth regiments of Virginia volunteers, commanded respectively by Colonel Hunton, Major Cabell, Col. Strange, Captain Wingfield and Colonel Stuart, left the neighborhood of Hagerstown, Maryland, on the morning of the 14th September last, and reached, Boonsboro', on the Hagerstown and Frederick turnpike, in the afternoon, after a hot, dusty and fatiguing march of some eighteen miles.

A short distance beyond the village, Kemper's, Pickett's and Jenkins' brigades (the latter commanded by Colonel Walker,) in the order named, were moved in a southerly direction, on a road running perpendicular to the pike. Having proceeded over a mile, these troops were directed on another route, parallel to the turnpike leading towards a gap in the South Mountain, further south than that through which the Hagerstown and Frederick road run. After marching nearly half a mile, Kemper filed to the left and again moved in the direction of the pike. At this time I received an order, by Major Mayo, of General Jones' staff, to bring my troops to an about-face, and to return the way I came, until I reached a path which I must take. He was unable to give me any information respecting the path in question, but said he would go forward and try to obtain some. I did not, however, see him again. I followed Jenkins' brigade, which was now in front, some distance, but hearing musketry open on the mountain, I took what I supposed to be a near cut in the direction where I presumed I was wanted. This took me over rough and ploughed ground up the mountain side; I at length found an old and broken road along which General Kemper must have moved. Here I met Captain Hugh Rose, of General Jones' staff, who had orders for me to return to the turnpike. When I got back to this road, my troops were almost exhausted; I consequently lost the services of a number of men by straggling. After a short rest I proceeded up the mountain, and having gained the summit on the main road, I was sent by a narrow lane, bearing to the left, to a higher position. A portion of this route was commanded by several pieces of the enemy's artillery, which opened upon my column, marching by the flank, as soon as it came in sight, which they were enabled to do with considerable accuracy, as they had previously been practising on other troops which had preceded mine. Several casualties occurred from this

cause whilst I was approaching and forming my line of battle, which I did by filing my command to the right through an open field. My right rested in a thick woods, which descended quite abruptly in front, and my left in a field of standing corn. As soon as my troops were formed, I sent forward a line of skirmishers to ascertain the position of the enemy. When these dispositions had been completed, which was only a short time before sunset, I received an order from General Jones to detach my left regiment to Kemper's right, (he being on my left,) and to withdraw the rest of the brigade to a wooded ridge a little to the left and rear. The first part of this order had scarcely been executed, when the Federal skirmishers made their appearance, immediately followed by their main body, so that the action at once became general. The brigade sustained, for some time, a fierce attack of, doubtless, many times their numbers. It has been subsequently ascertained that General McClellan's army, consisting of at least eighty thousand men, assailed our position, only defended by General D. H. Hill's division, and a part of General Longstreet's corps. The left was the first to fall back, and finally the right was forced to retreat, being without support. Many renewed the contest a little further to the rear, and stoutly disputed the approach of the enemy; but it had now become so dark it was impossible to distinguish objects, except at a short distance. About this time, two regiments of Jenkins' brigade came up, and the probable position of the enemy being pointed out, they advanced to the attack with great gallantry. Just as these troops moved forward, I was ordered to bring off my brigade, which I did. It is due to the brigade to say, that it went into the battle of Boonsboro' under many serious disadvantages. It had marched (a portion of the time rapidly) between twenty-two and twenty-three miles, before it went into action; much oppressed by heat and dust, reached its position a short time before sunset, under a disheartening fire of artillery, and was attacked by a much superior force as soon as it was formed in line of battle. That it bravely discharged its duty, is fully attested by the number of casualties which occurred during the engagement. I had been placed in command of the brigade only a few days before the battle of Boonsboro', and therefore was personally acquainted with only a few of the officers, save the regimental commanders, I cannot, therefore, mention names, but can only say, I saw several in connection with them, both by word and example, encouraging and cheering on their men in the hottest of the fight. For further information on this subject you are referred to the sub-reports herewith enclosed.

Colonel Stuart, as I formerly mentioned, was detached, with his regiment, (the fifty-sixth Virginia,) before the action commenced; his accompanying official report will show the part taken by his command. Lieutenant McIntyre, eighth Virginia volunteers, A. A. A. G.; Lieutenant Elliott Johnston and Lieutenant A. C. Sorrell, first Georgia regulars, acting A. D. C., composed my staff. It is with much pleasure that I acknowledge the zeal, intelligence and bravery with which they discharged their duties pending the battle.

We have to mourn, in this action, many of our companions as

killed and wounded, who go to swell the list of noble martyrs, who have suffered in our just cause. It was my lot to be acquainted with but one of the officers who fell on this occasion, Colonel John B. Strange, nineteenth Virginia volunteers. His tried valor on other fields, and heroic conduct in animating his men to advance upon the enemy with his latest breath, and after he had fallen, mortally wounded, will secure imperishable honor for his name and memory.

I herewith furnish a list of the killed and wounded, and have the honor to state that, the delay and imperfection of my report with regard to details have been occasioned by my being relieved from the commands of Pickett's brigade before the reports of regimental commanders could be made out, and, although I applied for them some weeks since, I received several of them only yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. GARNETT,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL GARNETT OF BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

CAMP NEAR CULPEPER COURT HOUSE, VA., }  
November 7, 1862. }

Major A. COWARD,

*A. A. G. to Brigadier General D. R. Jones:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to forward the following report of the battle of Sharpsburg as far as participated in by my command, Pickett's brigade:

Early in the forenoon of the 17th September, 1862, these troops, composed of the eighth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twenty-eighth and fifty-sixth Virginia volunteers, commanded by Colonel Hunton, Major Cabell, Lieutenant Wm. N. Wood, Captain Wingfield and Captain McPhail, were ordered to the southeastern side of the village to support several batteries of the Washington artillery, commanding the easterly and southerly approaches to the town. As far as practicable, the command was sheltered in a hollow in the rear of the artillery. For some four or five hours it was subjected to an almost uninterrupted fire of solid shot, shell and spherical case, by which a number of men were killed and wounded, which casualties were borne by the troops with remarkable firmness and steadiness. I was subsequently ordered forward, on the brow of the hill, to dislodge the enemy's skirmishers, who began to annoy our artillery to the eastward. Here we were more exposed to the Federal artillery than in our former position, and suffered considerably. At length, for some cause unknown to me, a large portion of the pieces were withdrawn, and I moved my command further back to a more secure place. Having been here a short time, I was informed that a portion of Colonel Stephen D. Lee's battalion had taken the place of the Washington artillery, and wished some skirmishers to protect his pieces from the sharpshooters of the enemy. I sent forward the fifty-sixth regiment, under the command of Captain McPhail, for this purpose. Not long after I learned that the enemy had crossed the Antietam, a stream in our front, in very large force, and was moving toward the point occupied by the artillery. I again moved forward my force and took up a position in front of two pieces of Colonel Lee's battalion in a corn-field, with space enough between the wings for them to be used with effect. The fifty-sixth regiment, which was in front, was recalled and rejoined the left wing of the main body. Soon a large number of the enemy's skirmishers were seen to our left, as if to flank us; there were none of our forces in sight in that direction. A brisk fire from the left checked and finally caused them to retire. Now a large force made its appearance, marching to the front, having debouched from the woods on the banks of the Antietam, which had partially concealed them, at the same time heavy bodies were observed moving to attack our troops on the right, composed of Drayton's and a por-

tion of Kemper's brigade; I moved my command some distance to the front in the standing corn, (as many of my guns were short range,) in order that they could produce more effect, and opened fire. At this time I do not think my effective force could have exceeded two hundred men, yet these, with two rifled pieces, most gallantly and skillfully served, under the command of Captain Moody, and superintended by Colonel Lee, checked and held at bay a force of the enemy many times our number. When this unequal contest had lasted over an hour, I discovered that the Federals had turned our extreme right, which began to give way; and a number of the Yankee flags appeared on the hill in rear of the town and not far from our only avenue of escape. I ordered the brigade to fall back, deeming it in imminent danger of being surrounded and captured, as it would have been impossible for it to have held its position without the support of the troops on the right. There being some delay in withdrawing Moody's section of artillery, I take pleasure in saying I saw Major Cabell halt and face his men about to await its removal, as mentioned in his official report. The main street of the town was commanded by the Federal artillery, my troops passed, therefore, for the most part, to the north of the town, along the cross streets. In this direction I found troops scattered in squads from various parts of the army, so that it was impossible to distinguish men of the different commands. Having reached the rear of the town, and learning that General Toombs had reinforced our right just after it was driven back, and restored the fortunes of the day in that quarter, I gathered as many men as I could get to follow me from among the dispersed forces, (which did not amount to a large number, as many said they were looking for proper commands,) and, accompanied by Captain William Berkley, of the eighth Virginia regiment, and Lieutenants McIntire and Sorrel, of my staff, I joined General Drayton's command south of the village. I found, on my arrival, that the enemy had been successfully repulsed, only a few skirmishers remaining in sight, which were being driven back by our troops of the same description.

The conduct of the brigade during this most trying day, under destructive fires from artillery and musketry, is deserving of the highest commendation, officers and men generally acting with the utmost bravery and coolness. The names of those particularly mentioned by regimental commanders will be found in their reports, here-with furnished.

My staff, Lieutenants McIntyre, Johnston (who was wounded in the foot, shortly after the infantry engagement commenced, and, in consequence of which, he lost his leg) and Sorrel, are entitled to my thanks for meritorious and gallant services during the day.

I feel it a duty, and grateful to my feelings, again to recur to the part taken by Captain Moody's section of artillery. It is partly due to the brave and energetic manner with which it was handled that the infantry were enabled to hold their position, and it is, therefore, entitled to a full share of the credit for whatever success attended our efforts on that part of the field. Colonel Lee, at times during the action, personally assisted at his pieces. His bravery and intrepidity

at the battle of Sharpsburg should add fresh fame to the high reputation he has already won.

In this battle, as in former ones, we are called on to deplore the loss of many brave spirits, who have sealed their devotion to the Southern cause with their life's blood.

May their memories ever be enshrined in the hearts of their countrymen!

This report has been delayed for the reasons assigned in my report of the battle of Boonsboro'. A list of killed, wounded, &c., is here-with furnished as far as could be obtained.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. GARNETT,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL RIPLEY.

HEADQUARTERS RIPLEY'S BRIGADE,  
Camp on Opequon Creek, September 21, 1862. }

Major ARCHER ANDERSON,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: On the evening of September 13th, I received orders from Major General D. H. Hill to march with my brigade and take a position, with it and a battery of artillery, on the eminence immediately on the northeast of Boonsboro', and to send a regiment, at daylight on the following morning, to occupy the Hamburg pass. This was accomplished, and on the following morning, at an early hour, Colonel Doles, with the fourth Georgia regiment, was in position at the pass. At about nine o'clock, I received orders to send forward my artillery and, soon after, to move with the whole force to the main pass east of Boonsboro'. Upon arriving, I was ordered to follow the road leading to Braddock's Gap and place myself in communication with Brigadier General Anderson, who had preceded me in that direction. Upon coming up and communicating with that officer, it was arranged that he should extend along the Braddock road and make room for the troops of my command, and that an attack should be made upon the enemy, then occupying the heights to the south. While taking position General Hill arrived, and, with him, Brigadier General Drayton's command. General Hill directed General Anderson's and my command to extend still further on this road, making room for General Drayton's troops, and that the attack should be made as soon as all were in position.

General Anderson's and my own brigade got into position on the road, and General Drayton's command was rapidly forming, when the action commenced by the enemy attacking him in force. This he sustained for some time, General Anderson's and my own brigades pushing forward through dense thickets and up very steep acclivities to outflank the enemy and come in to General Drayton's support. The natural difficulties of the ground and the condition of the troops prevented these movements from being made with the rapidity which was desirable, and the enemy forced his way to the Braddock road between General Drayton's force and my own, and sent a column of troops down the road as if to cut off the troops forming our right. In this object he was thwarted by two pieces of artillery belonging to Colonel Rosser's cavalry, which was speedily placed in position a short distance in our rear, on the Braddock road. A few well directed shot and shell drove the enemy up the hill, leaving the road in our possession. Meantime, General Anderson had extended to the right and came up with the enemy, with whom he had a short engagement. My own brigade had pressed up to within a short distance of the crest of the heights and held its position, under a noisy but comparatively harmless fire; but, Anderson's brigade having extended far to the

right, it was, for the time, unsupported by any other troops. Soon after, Brigadier General Hood's command came from the main pass and, forming upon my left, the troops pressed up the road, driving the enemy before them, until they occupied their first position, and darkness put an end to the operations. I found, soon afterwards, that General Anderson's command had been withdrawn, at night-fall, from the heights to the Braddock road. Orders were received from Major General Longstreet to renew the attack as early as practicable, and arrangements were in progress when further orders were received to move back to the main road and follow the army. The movement was made without confusion, and, upon coming on the road near Boonsboro', the route was taken following the main army to Sharpsburg.

Upon arriving on the west bank of the Antietam river, on the 15th, under orders from Major General Longstreet, during the temporary absence of the division commander, I posted my own, Anderson's and McRae's brigades on the heights overlooking the river, with the right resting on the road from Boonsboro' to Sharpsburg, facing the river. The troops bivouacked during the remainder of the 15th and the 16th in this position.

On the morning of the 16th, the enemy made his appearance in force in our front, and, from about nine o'clock until night-fall, we were subjected to annoying artillery fire. During the evening I received orders to move my brigade to the left of our division, and take up a position to cover a road leading from our left to the turnpike leading from Sharpsburg to Hagerstown, and in support of certain batteries of artillery in our vicinity. The troops rested on their arms during the night of the 16th.

Early on the morning of the 17th, the skirmishers of Colonel Walker's brigade, of Jackson's corps, immediately on my left, became engaged, and the enemy, from his batteries on the eastern bank of the Antietam, opened a severe enfilading fire on the troops of my command, the position which we had been ordered to occupy being in full view of nearly all of his batteries. This fire inflicted severe loss before the troops were called into positive action, the men laying under it without flinching for over an hour, while the enemy plied his guns unceasingly. During this while a set of farm buildings in our front were set on fire to prevent their being made use of by the enemy. At about eight o'clock, I received orders to close in to my left and advance. The troops sprung to their arms with alacrity and moved forward through the burning buildings in our front, reformed on the further side, and opened a rapid fire upon the enemy. While engaged in reforming the brigade I received a shot in the neck, which disabled me, and the troops moved forward under command of Colonel Doles, of the fourth Georgia regiment. After an absence of an hour and a half, I returned to the field, with such force as I could collect from detachments, and found my brigade relieved and in position to the west of Sharpsburg. I remained with it until the afternoon, when, finding myself faint and exhausted, I relinquished the command to Colonel Doles, to whose report I must refer for the operations of the brigade while under his command.

I noticed the gallant and efficient conduct of officers and men, which, in many instances, was admirable, especially in consideration of the hardships to which they had been subjected, many having been without food for twenty-four and some for forty-eight hours.

The commanding officers of regiments, Colonel Doles, of the fourth Georgia; Colonel DeRosset, of the third North Carolina, (severely wounded;) Lieutenant Colonel Brown, of the first North Carolina, and Captain Key, of the forty-fourth Georgia, all led their troops gallantly. They were ably seconded by their respective field officers, and I concur in the remarks of the regimental commanders concerning their various officers.

Captain B. H. Read and Lieutenant H. H. Rogers, acting on my staff, rendered, throughout the operations, valuable and efficient service. Captain Read remained on the field after I had been disabled. Lieutenant Rogers was severely wounded while in the discharge of his duties.

The return of killed, wounded and missing will be forwarded with the report of Colonel Doles, upon whom the command of the brigade will devolve during my absence.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obd't serv't,

R. S. RIPLEY,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

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# REPORT OF COLONEL COLQUITT, COMMANDING BRIGADE, OF BATTLE OF SOUTH MOUNTAIN.

BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS,  
*Near Bunker Hill, Va., October 13, 1862.* }

Major J. W. RATCHFORD, A. A. G.:

SIR: Herewith, I submit a report of the action of my brigade in the battle of South Mountain, September 14th. On the night of September 12th I left the camp of the division, with the brigade and Captain Lane's battery, with instructions to occupy the commanding points at Boonville, four miles to the rear. The march, and the unavoidable delay in selecting positions in the dark, consumed most of the night. Early the next morning General Hill arrived. While engaged in making a reconnaissance, he received information that General Stuart, commanding the cavalry in rear, stood in need of support. I was ordered to move at once, with my brigade and the battery of artillery. Proceeding along the turnpike two and-a-half or three miles, I reached the summit of South Mountain, and discovered the enemy's cavalry advancing and ours gradually giving back. I reported my arrival to General Stuart, and consulted with him as to the best disposition of the forces. Two pieces of artillery were ordered to the front, to a position commanding the turnpike leading down the valley. The continued advance of the enemy rendered the execution of the order impracticable. They were thrown rapidly into position at the most available points, and the infantry disposed upon the right and left of the road. The enemy made no further efforts to advance, and, at dark, withdrew from my immediate front. To the right and left of the turnpike, a mile distant on either side, were practicable roads leading over the mountain, and connecting a cross-road along the ridge with the turnpike. Upon each of these roads I threw out strong infantry pickets, the cavalry being withdrawn, and my main body was retired to the rear of the cross-road, leaving a line of skirmishers in front. Early next morning my pickets were called in, being relieved by other forces which had arrived during the night, and my brigade advanced to the position it occupied the day previous. Upon the right of the road across the valley, and upon the hillside, three regiments were placed, with instructions to connect with General Garland's line on the right. The force was insufficient to reach that distance, and there was a gap left of three or four hundred yards between the two brigades. The remaining regiments of my brigade, to-wit: the twenty-third and twenty-eighth Georgia, were put in position on the left of the turnpike, under cover of a stone fence and a channel worn by water down the mountain side. The first attack of the enemy was made upon the extreme right of my line, as with the view to pass in the opening between Garland's and my command. This was met and repulsed by a small body of skirmishers and a few companies of the sixth Georgia. At four o'clock, in the afternoon, a large force had been concentrated

in my front and was moving up the valley, along each side of the turnpike. I informed General Hill of the movement, and asked for supports. Being pressed at other points, he had none to give me. The enemy advanced slowly, but steadily, preceded by skirmishers. Upon the right of the road, four hundred yards in advance of my line, there was a thick growth of woods, with fields opening in front and around them. In these I had concealed four companies of skirmishers, under the command of Captain Arnold. As the enemy advanced, the skirmishers poured upon his flank a sudden and unexpected fire, which caused the troops on this part of his line to give back in confusion. They were subsequently rallied and thrown to the right, strengthening the attack to be made upon my left. Two regiments here were to meet at least five, perhaps ten times, their numbers. Nobly did they do it. Confident in their superior numbers, the enemy's forces advanced to a short distance of our lines, when, raising a shout, they came to a charge. As they came full into view upon the rising ground, forty paces distant, they were met by a terrific volley of musketry from the stone fence and hillside. This gave a sudden check to their advance. They rallied under cover of the uneven ground, and the fight opened in earnest. They made still another effort to advance, but were kept back by the steady fire of our men. The fight continued, with fury, until after dark. Not an inch of ground was yielded; the ammunition of many of the men was exhausted, but they stood with bayonets fixed.

I am proud of the officers and men of my command, for their noble conduct on this day. Especial credit is due to Colonel Barclay, of the twenty-third Georgia, and Major Graybill, twenty-eighth Georgia, who, with their regiments, met and defeated the fiercest assaults of the enemy. My thanks are due Lieutenants Jordan and Grattan, of my staff, for their assistance this day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. COLQUITT,  
Colonel commanding Brigade.

REPORT OF COLONEL COLQUITT, COMMANDING BRI-  
GADE, OF BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS,  
Near Bunker Hill, Va., October 13, 1862. }

Major RATCHFORD, A. A. G. :

SIR : I give you below an account of the part taken by this brigade in the battle of September 17th :

About seven o'clock, in the morning, my brigade entered the fight. It was moved to the front and formed on the right of General Ripley's brigade, which was then engaged. After a few rounds had been discharged, I ordered an advance, and at the same time sent word to the regiments on my left to advance simultaneously. The order was responded to with spirit by my men, and, with a shout, they moved through the corn-field in front, two hundred yards wide, and formed on the line of fence. The enemy was near and in full view. In a moment or two his ranks began to break before our fire, and the line soon disappeared under the crest of the hill upon which it had been established. It was soon replaced by another, and the fire opened with renewed vigor. In the meantime, Garland's brigade, which had been ordered to my right, had given way and the enemy were advancing, unchecked. The regiments upon my left having also failed to advance, we were exposed to a fire from all sides and nearly surrounded. I sent in haste to the rear for reinforcements, and communicated to General Hill the exposed condition of my men. With steady supports upon the right, we could yet maintain our position. The supports were not at hand, and could not reach us in time. The enemy closed in upon the right so near that our ranks were scarcely distinguishable. At the same time, his line in front advanced. My men stood firm until every field officer but one had fallen, and then made the best of their way out. In this sharp and unequal conflict, I lost many of my best officers and one-half of the men in the ranks. If the brigades upon the right and left had advanced, we should have driven the enemy from the field. He had at one time broken in our front, but we had not strength to push the advantage. Colonel Smith, of the twenty-seventh Georgia, Colonel Barclay, of the twenty-third Georgia, and Lieutenant Colonel Newton, commanding the sixth Georgia, fell at the head of their regiments. Their loss is irreparable. Upon every battle-field they had distinguished themselves for coolness and gallantry. Colonel Fry, of the thirteenth Alabama, and Captain Garrison, commanding twenty-eighth Georgia, were severely wounded. Subsequent to the action of the forenoon, portions of my brigade encountered the enemy in two desultory engagements, in which they stood before superior numbers and gave a check to their advance. In one of these, a small party were placed under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Betts and directed to deploy as skir-

mishers along the crest of a hill upon which the enemy was advancing. They did so, with good effect, keeping back a large force by their annoying fire and the apprehension, excited by their boldness, that they were supported by a line in rear. During the engagement of this day, I had the misfortune to lose my acting assistant adjutant general, Lieutenant R. P. Jordan. He fell while gallantly dashing towards the enemy's line. I have not known a more active, efficient and fearless officer. Lieutenant Grattan, my aid-de-camp, was conspicuously bold in the midst of danger and untiring in the discharge of his duties. I regret that I cannot here mention the names of all, dead and living, who are entitled to a tribute at my hands.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. COLQUITT,  
*Colonel commanding Brigade.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL R. E. RODES.

HEADQUARTERS RODES' BRIGADE,  
Wright's Farm, Va., October 13, 1862. }

Major J. W. RATCHFORD,

*A. A. G. to Major General D. H. Hill's Division:*

MAJOR: I have the honor, herewith, to report the operations of this brigade during the actions of the 14th and 17th September, in Maryland.

On the morning of the 14th, my brigade relieved Anderson's about a half mile west of Boonsboro'. Towards noon it was ordered to follow Ripley's brigade to the top of the South Mountain. Overtaking Ripley's brigade on the mountain it was halted, and I immediately reported to Major General Hill. After looking over the field of battle, I was ordered by Major General Hill to take position on the ridge immediately to the left of the gap through which the main road runs. Remaining there for three-fourths of an hour, part of the time under artillery fire, and throwing out scouts and skirmishers to the left and front, I was then ordered to occupy another bare hill about three-quarters of a mile still further to the left. The whole brigade was moved to that hill, crossing, in doing so, a deep gorge which separated the hills. This movement left a wide interval between the right of my brigade, which, in its last position, rested in the gorge, and the balance of the division, which being reported to General Hill, together with the fact that no troops supported the battery on the first mentioned ridge, by his order, I sent back one of my regiments (the twelfth Alabama) to support the battery.

By this time the enemy's line of battle was pretty well developed, and in full view. It became evident that he intended to attack with a line covering both ridges and the gorge before mentioned, and extending some half a mile to my left. I had, immediately after my arrival on the extreme left, discovered that the hill there was accessible to artillery, and that a good road passing by the left of said hill from the enemy's line continued immediately in my rear, and entered the main road about a half mile west of the gap. Under these circumstances, I sent for artillery and determined upon the only plan by which the enemy could be prevented from immediately obtaining possession of said road, and thus marching entirely in our rear without difficulty, and that was to extend my line as far as I could to the left, to let the right rest in the gorge still, and to send to my superiors for reinforcements to continue the line from my right to the gap on the main road, an interval of three quarters of a mile at least. Having thrown out skirmishers along the whole front and to the left, they very soon became engaged with the enemy's skirmishers. This was about three, P. M., and it was perfectly evident then that my force of about twelve hundred muskets was opposed to one which outflanked mine on either

side, by at least half a mile. I thought the enemy's force opposed to my brigade was at least a division. In a short time the firing became steady along the whole line, the enemy advancing very slowly, the danger of his possessing the top of the left hill and thus being in my rear, became so imminent, that I had to cause my left regiment (the sixth Alabama, under Colonel Gordon,) to move along the brow of the hill under fire, still further to the left. He did so in good style, and having a fair opportunity to do so with advantage, charged and drove the enemy back a short distance. By this time the enemy, though met gallantly by all of the regiments with me, had penetrated between them and had begun to swing their extreme right around towards my rear, making for the head of the gorge, up the bottom and sides of which the whole of my force, except the sixth Alabama, had to retreat, if at all. I renewed again and yet again my application for reinforcements; but none came. Some artillery, under Captain Carter, who was moving up without orders, and some of Colonel Cutts', under a gallant lieutenant, whose name I do not now recollect, was reported by the last named officer to be on its way to my relief; but at this time the enemy had obtained possession of the summit of the left hill before spoken of, and had command of the road in rear of the main mountain, the artillery could only have been used by being hauled up on the high peaks, which arose upon the summit of the ridge just at the head of the gorge before mentioned. This they had not time to do, and hence I ordered it back. Just before this, I heard that some Confederate troops had joined my right very nearly.

Finding that the enemy were forcing my right back, and that the only chance to continue the fight was to change my front so as to face to the left, I ordered all the regiments to fall back up the gorge and sides of the mountain, fighting, the whole concentrating around the high peak before mentioned. This enabled me to face the enemy's right again, and to make another short stand with Gordon's excellent regiment, which he had kept constantly in hand, and had handled in a manner I have never seen or heard equalled during this war, and with the remainders of the fifth, third and twelfth Alabama regiments, I found the twelfth had been relieved by other troops and closed in towards my right; but had passed in rear of the original line so far that, upon re-establishing the line on the main peak, I found that the third Alabama came up on its right. The twenty-sixth Alabama, which had been placed on my right, was by this time completely demoralized; its colonel (O'Neal) was wounded, and the men mingled in utter confusion with some South Carolina stragglers, on the summit of the hill, who stated that their brigade had been compelled to give way, and had retired. Notwithstanding this, if true, left my rear entirely exposed again, I had no time or means to examine the worth of their statement. I determined in accordance with the orders I received about this time, in reply to my last request for reinforcements, to fight on on the new front.

My loss up to this time had been heavy in all the regiments except the twelfth Alabama. The fifth Alabama, which had occupied the left centre, got separated into two parts in endeavoring to follow up the

flank movement of Gordon's regiment, both parts became engaged again before they could rejoin, and the right battalion was finally cut off entirely, the left and smaller battalion, under Major Hobson's gallant management, though flanked, wheeled against the flanking party and, by desperate fighting, silenced the enemy so far as to enable his little command to make its way to the peak before mentioned. In the first attack of the enemy up the bottom of the gorge, they pushed on so vigorously as to catch Captain Ready and a portion of his party of skirmishers, and separate the third from the fifth Alabama regiment. The third made a most gallant resistance at this point, and had my line been a continuous one, it could never have been forced.

Having re-established my line, though still with wide intervals, necessarily, on the high peak, (this was done under constant fire and in full view of the enemy, now in full possession of the extreme left hill and of the gorge,) the fight at close quarters was resumed, and again accompanied by the enemy's throwing their, by this time apparently interminable right, around towards my rear. In this position the sixth Alabama and the twelfth suffered pretty severely; the latter, together with the remainder of the third Alabama, which had been well handled by Colonel Battle, was forced to retire, and in so doing lost heavily; its colonel (Gayle) was seen to fall and its lieutenant colonel (Pickens) was shot through the lungs. The former was left on the field, supposed to be dead; Pickens was brought off. Gordon's regiment retired slowly, now being under an enfilading as well as direct fire, and in danger of being surrounded; but was still, fortunately for the whole command, held together by its able commander.

After this I could meet the enemy with no organized force, except Gordon's regiment; one more desperate stand was made by it from an advantageous position. The enemy by this time were nearly on top of the highest peak, and were pushing on when Gordon's regiment, unexpectedly to them, opened fire on their front and checked them. This last stand was so disastrous to the enemy that it attracted the attention of the stragglers even, many of whom Colonel Battle and I had been endeavoring to organize, and who were just then on the flank of that portion of the enemy engaged with Gordon, and for a few minutes, they kept up a brisk enfilading fire upon the enemy; but finding his fire turning from Gordon's upon them, and that another body of Federal troops were advancing upon them, they speedily fell back.

It was now so dark that it was difficult to distinguish objects at short musket range, and both parties ceased firing. Directing Colonel Gordon to move his regiment to his right and to the rear so as to cover the gap, I endeavored to gather up stragglers from the other regiments. Colonel Battle still held together a handful of his men. These, together with the remnant of the twelfth, fifth and twenty-sixth Alabama regiments, were assembled at the gap, and were speedily placed along side of Gordon's regiment, which by this time had arrived in the road ascending the mountain from the gap, forming a line on the edge of the woods parallel to, and about two hundred yards from, the main road. The enemy did not advance beyond the top of the mountain;

but to be prepared for them, skirmishers were thrown out in front of the line. This position we held until about eleven o'clock at night, when we were ordered to take the Sharpsburg road, and to stop at Keedarsville, which we did. We had rested about an hour, when I was ordered to proceed to Sharpsburg with all the force under my command, Colquitt's brigade and mine, to drive out a Federal cavalry force reported to be there. On the way Colonel Chilton, chief of General Lee's staff, met me with contrary orders, which required me to send only a part of my force. The fifth and sixth Alabama were sent. In a few minutes, however, we received orders from General Longstreet to go ahead, and did so. Found no cavalry.

In this engagement my loss was as follows: killed, sixty-one; wounded, one hundred and fifty-seven; missing, two hundred and four; total, four hundred and twenty-two.

The men and officers generally behaved well; but Colonel Gordon, sixth Alabama, Major Hobson, fifth Alabama, and Colonel Battle, third Alabama, deserve especial mention for admirable conduct during the whole fight. We did not drive the enemy back, or whip him, but with twelve hundred men we held his whole division at bay, without assistance, during four hours and a half steady fighting, losing in that time not over a half a mile of ground. I was most ably and bravely served during the whole day by Captains Whiting and Peyton, and Lieutenant John Berney, who composed my staff.

On the 15th, after resting on the heights south of Sharpsburg long enough to get a scanty meal and to gather stragglers, we moved back through that place to the advanced position in the centre of the line of battle before the town. Here, subsisting on green corn, mainly, and under an occasional artillery fire, we lay until the morning of the 17th September, when began the engagement of that day.

The fight opened early on the left, but my brigade was not engaged until late in the forenoon. About nine o'clock, I was ordered to move to the left and front, to assist Ripley, Colquitt and McRae, who had already engaged the enemy, and I had hardly begun the movement before it was evident that the two latter had met with a reverse, and that the best service I could render them and the field generally, would be to form a line in rear of them, and endeavor to rally them before attacking or being attacked. Major General Hill held the same view, for at this moment I received an order from him to halt and to form line of battle in the hollow of an old and narrow road, just beyond the orchard, and with my left about one hundred and fifty yards from and east of the Hagerstown road. In a short time a small portion of Colquitt's brigade formed on my left, and I assumed the command of it. This brought my left to the Hagerstown road. General Anderson's brigade, occupying the same road, had closed up on my right. A short time after my brigade assumed its new position, and whilst the men were busy improving their position by piling rails along their front, the enemy deployed in our front in three beautiful lines, all vastly outstretching ours, and commenced to advance steadily. Unfortunately, no artillery opposed them in their advance. Carter's battery had been sent to take position in rear by me when I

abandoned my first position, because he was left without support, and because my own position had not then been fully determined. Three pieces, which occupied a fine position immediately on my front, abandoned it immediately after the enemy's skirmishers opened on them. The enemy came to the crest of the hill overlooking my position, and for five minutes bravely stood a galling fire at about eighty yards, which my whole brigade delivered; they then fell back a short distance, rallied, were driven back again and again, and finally lay down just back of the crest, keeping up a steady fire, however. In this position, receiving an order from General Longstreet to do so, I endeavored to charge them with my brigade, and that portion of Colquitt's which was on my immediate left; the charge failed, mainly because the sixth Alabama regiment, not hearing the command, did not move forward with the others, and because Colquitt's men did not advance far enough; that part of the brigade which moved forward found themselves in an exposed position, and, being outnumbered and unsustained, fell back before I could, by personal effort, which was duly made, get the sixth Alabama to move; hastening back to the left, I arrived just in time to prevent the men from falling back to the rear of the road we had just occupied. It became evident to me, then, that an attack by us must, to be successful, be made by the whole of Anderson's brigade, mine, Colquitt's and any troops that had arrived on Anderson's right. My whole force at this moment did not amount to over seven hundred men, most probably not to that number. About this time, I noticed troops going in to the support of Anderson, or to his right, and that one regiment and a portion of another, instead of passing on to the front, stopped in the hollow immediately in my rear and near the orchard. As the fire on both sides was, at my position at least, now desultory and slack, I went to the troops referred to and found that they belonged to General Pryor's brigade; their officers stated that they had been ordered to halt there by somebody, not General Pryor. Finding General P. in a few moments, and informing him as to their conduct, he immediately ordered them forward. Returning towards the brigade, I met Lieutenant Colonel Lightfoot, of the sixth Alabama, looking for me. Upon his telling me that the right wing of his regiment was being subjected to a terrible enfilading fire, which the enemy were enabled to deliver by reason of their gaining somewhat on Anderson, and that he had but few men left in that wing, I ordered him to hasten back, and to throw his right wing back out of the old road referred to. Instead of executing the order, he moved briskly to the rear of the regiment, and gave the command—"Sixth Alabama, about-face—forward, march." Major Hobson, of the fifth, seeing this, asked him if the order was intended for the whole brigade. He replied, "Yes," and, thereupon, the fifth, and immediately the other troops on their left, retreated. I did not see their retrograde movement until it was too late for me to rally them; for this reason, just as I was moving on after Lightfoot, I heard a shot strike Lieutenant Berney, who was immediately behind me. Wheeling, I found him falling, and that he had been struck in the face. He found that he could walk, after I raised him, though he

thought a shot or piece of shell had penetrated his head just under the eye. I followed him a few paces and watched him until he had reached a barn, a short distance to the rear, where he first encountered some one to help him, in case he needed it. As I turned towards the brigade, I was struck heavily by a piece of shell on my thigh. At first I thought the wound was serious, but finding, upon examination, that it was slight, I again turned towards the brigade, when I discovered it, without visible cause to me, retreating in confusion. I hastened to intercept it at the Hagerstown road. I found, though, that with the exception of a few men from the twenty-sixth, twelfth and third, and a few under Major Hobson, not more than forty in all, the brigade had completely disappeared from this portion of the field. This small number, together with some Mississippians (under Colonel —) and North Carolinians, making in all about one hundred and fifty (150) men, I rallied and stationed behind a small ridge leading from the Hagerstown road eastward, towards the orchard before spoken of, and about one hundred and fifty (150) yards in rear of my last position, leaving them under the charge of Colonel —. [It is proper for me to mention here that this force, with some slight additions, was afterwards led through the orchard against the enemy by General D. H. Hill, and did good service, the General himself handling a musket in the fight. Major Hobson and Lieutenant Goff, of the fifth Alabama, the latter with a musket, bore distinguished parts in this fight.] After this, my time was spent mainly in directing the fire of some artillery and getting up stragglers.

In this engagement, the brigade behaved very handsomely and satisfactorily, and, with the exception of the right wing of the sixth Alabama, (where Colonel Gordon, whilst acting with his customary gallantry, was wounded desperately, receiving five wounds,) had sustained almost no loss, until the retrograde movement began. It had, together with Anderson's troops, stopped and foiled the attack of a whole corps of the enemy for more than an hour, and finally fell back only when, as the men and officers supposed, they had been ordered to do so. We might have been compelled to have fallen back afterwards, (for the troops on my right had already given away when we began to retreat;) but, without the least hesitation, I say that but for the unaccountable mistake of Lieutenant Colonel Lightfoot, the retreat would not have commenced at this time, if at all. He was wounded severely in the retreat.

I saw but little of the operations of Carter's battery during the battle. I only know that it was actively engaged the whole day, and with some loss. The gallant captain received a slight wound in the foot, and one of his Lieutenants, Dabney, received one, from which he has since died. I beg leave to refer to his report, which is submitted herewith.

My force at the beginning of the fight was less than eight hundred (800) effective men. The loss was as follows: Killed, fifty; wounded, one hundred and thirty-two; missing, twenty-one; total, three hundred and three.

The aggregate loss in the two engagements is as follows: Killed,

one hundred and eleven; wounded, two hundred and eighty-nine; missing, two hundred and thirty-one; total six hundred and twenty-five. The missing are either prisoners or killed; most of them were captured on the mountain on the 14th. Captain Whiting and Lieutenant John Berney, C. S. A., of my staff, were both wounded. They, with Captain Green Peyton, A. A. General, discharged their respective duties with ability and gallantry.

The subjoined tabular statements will exhibit the loss in the respective regiments of the brigade in both engagements. The enemy's loss in both engagements was far heavier than mine; I believe they lost three to my one at Sharpsburg, and at least two to one on the mountain.

Respectfully submitted,

R. E. RODES, *Brigadier General.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL SEMMES OF BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

HEADQUARTERS SEMMES' BRIGADE, McLAWS' DIVISION, }  
Camp near Martinsburg, Va., September 24, 1862. }

Major J. M. GOGGIN,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report briefly the part enacted by my brigade, composed of the fifteenth and thirty-second Virginia and the tenth and fifty-third Georgia volunteers and Manly's battery, in the battle of Sharpsburg, on the 17th of September instant:

Moving forward by the flank in the direction of the enemy, before coming in view, two brigades were met retiring from the front, apparently badly cut up. An incessant current of wounded flowed to the rear, showing that the conflict had been severe and well contested. Coming in full view of the enemy's lines, Major General McLaw, in person, ordered me to move forward in line to the support of Major General Stuart, on our extreme left. Immediately the order was given, "By company into line," followed by "Forward into line," both of which movements were executed in the presence of the enemy, under a fire occasioning severe loss in killed and wounded. The brigade advanced steadily for two hundred yards under fire before the order was given to commence firing. This order was then given, at long range for most of our arms, for the purpose of encouraging our troops and disconcerting the enemy. The troops, it is true, needed little encouragement. Their officers had already inspired them with enthusiasm, and they continued to advance with vivacity. The effect on the enemy's fire, of the order to the regiments of the brigade that had formed in line, to commence firing, was distinctly visible in the diminished numbers of killed and wounded. The enemy at first met our advance by a corresponding one. Our troops continued to press steadily forward, pouring a deadly fire into his ranks, and he, after advancing an hundred yards, gave way, and we continued to drive him from position to position, through wood and field, for a mile, expending not less than forty rounds of ammunition. My brigade was thrown farther to the front than the troops on my right by about three hundred yards, and, for a time, was exposed to a terrible front and enfilading fire, inflicting great loss.

It gives me satisfaction to be enabled to state that my brigade fought under an inspiration of enthusiasm which impelled the men forward with the confidence of victory. Had it been possible to have strengthened it by a supporting force of two or three thousand men, there was not then, nor is there now, a doubt in my mind but that the enemy's right, though in vastly superior numbers, would have been driven upon his centre, and both in confusion on his left, utterly routing him. The victory, though decisive, would thus have been rendered signal, and the enemy's lines broken and dispersed.

The loss in killed and wounded was, of the fifty-third Georgia volunteers, thirty per cent., thirty-second Virginia, forty-five per cent., tenth Georgia, fifty-seven per cent., fifteenth Virginia, fifty-eight per cent., detailed statements of which are herewith submitted. The disparity in the loss of some of the companies of the same regiment is very marked. Three of the four regimental commanders were wounded. Lieutenant Colonel Sloan, commanding fifty-third Georgia, fell, it was then supposed, mortally wounded, while gallantly leading his regiment forward into line on the extreme left of the brigade. The regimental commanders displayed conspicuous gallantry, and, by their example, inspired their commands with the confidence of positive success. Troops never fought more persistently, intelligently, and with more valor.

My staff, Lieutenant Briggs, aid-de-camp, and Lieutenants Redd and Cody, volunteer aids, were present during the entire action, and were more exposed, if possible, than any of the troops—being often employed in bearing orders to different parts of my line, and to commanders of other troops in the vicinity, displaying coolness and gallantry of the highest order—and all escaping untouched except Lieutenant Redd, who received a slight wound on the body from a spent bullet. Calling for a staff officer to bear an order to the regiment on the left, none being at hand, Captain Henley, A. C. S., thirty-second Virginia, who had been shot through the arm, but refused to quit the field, offered himself to become the bearer, which was declined on account of his wound. Whereupon, stating that his wound was slight and that he was not disabled, he was allowed to proceed. While doing so, he fell, severely wounded, pierced with two bullets. This is only a prominent example of many acts of signal daring and valor displayed on that bloody and memorable field by officers and men of all the regiments.

After the enemy was thus driven back and the fire of his small arms had for some time entirely ceased, the troops, having been under an incessant musketry and artillery fire for two hours and twenty minutes, were so thoroughly exhausted and their ammunition so nearly expended as to render necessary the order to retire for the purpose of reforming and obtaining a fresh supply of ammunition. Remaining myself an hour longer in front, with Lieutenant Davis and six men of the tenth Georgia volunteers, I then withdrew and reported to Major General McLaws, who ordered my brigade to be reassembled in reserve. Thirty-six prisoners, including a lieutenant colonel and first lieutenant, were captured at a farm house, the most advanced position held by my brigade, which was some hundreds of yards in advance of the other portions of our line of battle.

The reports of regimental commanders are herewith submitted, to which reference is respectfully asked for further details.

Manly's battery was detached from my command during the battle. His report is herewith submitted.

I am, Major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PAUL J. SEMMES,

*Brigadier General.*

HEADQUARTERS SEMMES' BRIGADE, Oct. 27, 1862.

Major J. M. GOGGIN,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: In answer to the inquiry by Major General Longstreet, as to the number of colors lost by our troops in the battles in Maryland, I have the honor to state that no colors were lost by the regiments of this brigade.

In the battle of Sharpsburg the color of the fifty-third Georgia received two shots; that of the fifteenth Virginia ten, and the pike was once cut in two, two color-bearers were wounded and one of the color-guard was killed and one wounded; the color of the thirty-second Virginia received seventeen shots, and the pike was once cut in two, and one of the color-guard killed; the color of the tenth Georgia received forty-six shots, and the pike was once hit and twice cut in two, one color-bearer and one of the color-guard were killed, and one color-bearer and one of the color-guard wounded.

These facts were not incorporated in the report of the operations of this brigade in the battle of Sharpsburg. It is, therefore, respectfully submitted that this communication be regarded as a supplement to that report.

I am, Major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PAUL J. SEMMES,  
*Brigadier General.*

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL BARKSDALE OF BAT-  
TLE OF SHARPSBURG.

HEADQUARTERS BARKSDALE'S BRIGADE, A. N. V., }  
Camp Lee, October 12, 1862. }

Major J. M. GOGGIN:

*A. A. General, McLaws' Division:*

MAJOR: On the morning of the 13th of September I marched, at daylight, to Brownsville, where it was supposed the enemy designed making an attack upon our troops. After I reached that place, it was discovered that the enemy had disappeared, and the whole command was ordered to rejoin the main army. We reached its vicinity, in the neighborhood of Sharpsburg, about nine o'clock on the morning of the 17th. The battle was then, and had been raging for several hours. It is proper for me to say that a portion of my men had fallen by the wayside from loss of sleep and excessive fatigue, having been constantly on duty for five or six days, and on the march for almost the whole of the two preceding nights, and that I went into the fight with less than eight hundred men. About ten o'clock I formed a line of battle in an open field, which was at that time being raked by a terrible fire of grape and canister from the enemy's artillery. Kershaw was on my right and Semmes on my left. I at once, in accordance with your orders, advanced upon the enemy, who occupied the woods immediately in front; and from which they had just driven a portion of our forces. In a few moments I engaged them, and, after firing several volleys into their ranks, drove them through the woods and into an open field beyond, and compelled them to abandon their artillery on the hill. At this point I discovered that a very large force of the enemy were attempting to flank me on the left. I therefore ordered the eighteenth and thirteenth to wheel in that direction, and not only succeeded in checking the movement they were making, but put them to flight, and pursued them for a considerable distance. As we advanced, the ground was covered with the dead and wounded of the enemy. I did not deem it prudent, however, without more support, to advance further, and I therefore ordered these regiments to fall back to the woods in front of my first position. The seventeenth and twenty-first pursued the enemy across the open field, when, perceiving a very strong force moving to the right and attempting to flank them, and all of our forces having retired from that part of the field, they fell back, under protection of a stone fence, in good order. About two o'clock I advanced with the entire brigade and occupied the battle-ground over which we had passed in the morning, General Ransom being on my right and General Early on my left, and continued to hold it until the night of the 18th, when, by your orders, I joined the column of the main army, when it retired across the Potomac.

To both officers and men much credit is due for the courage and

daring they exhibited throughout the engagement. Major Campbell, commanding the eighteenth regiment, was seriously wounded, and taken from the field, while nobly leading his regiment in the fight. Lieutenant Colonel McElroy, of the thirteenth regiment, although wounded, remained in command of his regiment until the battle ceased. Lieutenant Colonel Fizer, of the seventeenth, and Captain Sims, of the twenty-first, were conspicuous for the coolness and gallantry with which they handled their respective commands. To Colonel Humphries, of the twenty-first, and Lieutenant Colonel Luse, of the eighteenth, who reached the field just as the battle was closing, I am under peculiar obligations. Their timely presence not only cheered and animated their own regiment, but the entire brigade. Lieutenant J. A. Barksdale, of my staff, was prompt and fearless in the execution of all orders. Surgeons Austin, of the thirteenth, Green, of the seventeenth, Griffin, of the eighteenth, and Hill, of the twenty-first, were faithful and energetic in their attention to the wounded.

I close this report with the remark, that my command did its duty upon the ensanguined field of Sharpsburg.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. BARKSDALE,  
*Brigadier General, commanding Brigade.*

# REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL KERSHAW OF BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

HEADQUARTERS KERSHAW'S BRIGADE, McLAWS' DIVISION, }  
Near Winchester, Va., October 9, 1862. }

To Major JAMES M. GOGGIN,  
*Assistant Adjutant General :*

MAJOR : In obedience to orders from division headquarters, I have the honor to transmit a report of the operations of my command at the battle of Sharpsburg. Owing to the exigencies of the service, my command were without their usual supply of subsistence from Monday morning, the 13th September, until the night of the 17th. They were also under arms or marching nearly the whole of the nights of Monday and Tuesday, arriving at Sharpsburg at daylight on Wednesday morning, the 17th of September. As a consequence, many had become exhausted and fallen out on the wayside, and all were worn and jaded. About nine o'clock, we were ordered forward to the relief of General Jackson's forces, then engaged on the left, in the wood in rear of the church. The Georgia and Mississippi brigades were formed in a ploughed field to the right and rear of the wood, my brigade in their rear in the same field. The enemy was discovered in the wood advancing towards its right face, where some of our guns had been abandoned before our arrival. Perceiving this, Major General McLaws directed me to occupy that part of the wood in advance of them, while our lines were being formed. For this purpose I ordered forward, at double quick, Colonel Kennedy's second South Carolina regiment, to march by a flank to the extreme point of the wood, then, by the front, to enter it. Before the head of the regiment had reached the point, and when entangled in a rail fence, the enemy opened fire upon them from a point not more than sixty yards distant. They promptly faced to the front and returned the fire so rapidly as to drive the enemy almost immediately. At the same time the brigades of Cobb and Barksdale (now on their left) advanced to their support. I then hurried up my three remaining regiments, (the eighth, Lieutenant Colonel Hoole; seventh, Colonel Aiken, and third, Colonel Nance,) and conducted them to the right of Colonel Kennedy, who, by this time, had advanced beyond the wood and to the left of the church, driving the enemy. I then ordered Read's battery to a position on the hill to the right of the wood, and sent in Colonel Manning, who reported to me on the field with Walker's brigade, to the right of my brigade. Our troops made constant progress, for some time, along the whole line, driving in column after column of the enemy. Colonel Aiken's regiment approached within thirty yards of one of the batteries, driving the men from the guns, and only gave way when enfiladed by a new battery, placed in position near them, leaving Major White dead, and one-half their men killed or wounded upon the field. About this time the enemy was

heavily reinforced and our line fell back to the wood, which was never afterwards taken from us. Read's battery, having suffered greatly in the loss of men and horses, was withdrawn, by my order, when the infantry fell back. The lines were reorganized behind the fences, near where they entered the fight, and their exhausted cartridge boxes replenished. Later in the day we moved to the left of General Early's command, which occupied the wood to the left of the church, where we remained until ordered to move across the river, on Thursday night, the 18th of September. I deem it proper to state that I left two companies on picket, in front of our lines, when we marched, under command of Captain Nance, of the third regiment, with instructions to remain until relieved by the cavalry. After daylight, next morning, Captain Nance, not having been relieved, perceived the enemy advancing in line of battle, and brought off his men in safety and good order, passing the cavalry pickets some distance in his rear.

I cannot too highly commend to your notice the gallant conduct of the troops of my command. The eighth regiment carried in but forty-five men, rank and file, and lost twenty-three officers and men. The second regiment were the first to attack and drive the enemy. Colonel Kennedy was painfully wounded in the first charge and was sent, by myself, from the field. After our lines were first driven back, under command of Major Gaillard, they rallied and broke a fresh line of battle that attempted to follow them. The third regiment, led by its efficient commander, twice changed front on the field, in magnificent order, and, after twice driving the enemy, retired with the precision of troops on review. The seventh, led by Colonel Aiken, trailed their progress to the cannon's mouth with the blood of their bravest, and, when borne back by resistless force, rallied the remnant left under command of Captain John S. Hard, the senior surviving officer. Colonel Aiken was most dangerously wounded. Every officer and man in the color company was either killed or wounded, and their total loss one hundred and forty, out of two hundred and sixty-eight men carried in. The colors of this regiment, shot from the staff, formed the winding-sheet of the last man of the color company, at the extreme point reached by our troops that day. Major White, whose death we lament, was a most gallant and accomplished officer, of elevated character and noble principles. No braver or better soldier survives him. Read's battery performed the most important service in a position of great danger. Second Lieutenant J. D. Parkman was killed on the field, gallantly discharging his duty. One gun was disabled and abandoned, and so many horses as to render it necessary to bring off their pieces severally. The acts of individual heroism performed on this memorable day are so numerous that regimental commanders have not attempted to particularize them. I am, as usual, greatly indebted to Captain Holmes, A. A. G., and Lieutenant Doby, A. D. C., of my staff, for intelligent and efficient assistance in carrying orders to all parts of the field. They were everywhere, exposed, with characteristic courage. Privates Baron and Deas, orderlies, were also with me in the field, bearing themselves with courage

and intelligence. The latter had his horse shot in three places. I have already transmitted a statement of our losses.

I am, Major, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. B. KERSHAW,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

REPORT OF COLONEL WOFFORD, COMMANDING TEXAS  
BRIGADE, OF BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

HEADQUARTERS TEXAS BRIGADE, September 29, 1862.

Captain W. H. SELLERS,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

SIR: I have the honor to report the part performed by this command in the engagements on the evening of the 16th and throughout the day of the 17th instant, at Sharpsburg, Maryland. Without referring to the various positions which we occupied after halting on the field, on the morning of the 15th instant, our division being in rear of the army from Boonsboro' mountain, this brigade was moved from in front of Sharpsburg, on the evening of the 15th, to the right and in front of Mumma church; this being the left of our line, and where the main and most of the fighting had taken place on the 17th instant. While we were moving to this position, the enemy opened a heavy fire upon us from their long-range guns, which was continued after we were in position, and resulted in the wounding of one lieutenant and one soldier in the fourth Texas regiment. We remained in this position the balance of the day and night of the 15th, and until late in the evening of the 16th, when we were ordered by General Hood to move by the left flank, through the open field in front of the church, and to its left, about seven hundred yards, to meet the enemy, who, it was then ascertained, had commenced to cross Antietam creek to our left. We there formed line of battle, and moved up to a corn-field in our front, and awaited the advance of the enemy, who had by this time opened upon us a brisk fire of shot and shell from some pieces of artillery which they had placed in position immediately in our front, and to the left of our lines, wounding one officer and some dozen men. I feel it due to truth to state that the enemy were informed of our position by the firing of a half a dozen shots from a little battery of ours on the left of the brigade, which hastily beat a retreat as soon as their guns opened upon us. While our line of battle rested upon the corn-field, Captain Turner, commanding the fifth Texas, which was on our right, had been moved forward into some woods, where he met a part of our skirmishers, driven in by the enemy, whom he engaged, and finally drove back, with the loss of one man. Our skirmishers, consisting of one hundred men, under the command of Captain Martin, of the fourth Texas, who had been moved into the woods in front and to the left of the fifth Texas, were hotly engaged with the enemy, but held their ground until they had expended all their cartridges, and then fell into our line of battle about nine o'clock at night; about which time we were relieved by General Lawton's brigade, and were withdrawn from the field to the woods in rear of Mumma church, for the purpose of cooking rations, our men not having received any regular allowance in three days. It was now evident that the enemy had effected a crossing entirely to

our left, and that he would make the attack on that wing early in the morning, moving his forces over and placing them in position during the night.

At three o'clock, on the morning of the 17th, the picket firing was very heavy, and at daylight the battle was opened. Our brigade was moved forward at sunrise to the support of General Lawton, who had relieved us the night before. Moving forward in line of battle in the regular order of regiments, the brigade proceeded through the woods into the open field towards the corn-field, where the left encountered the first line of the enemy. Seeing the Hampton legion and eighteenth Georgia moving slowly forward, but rapidly firing, I rode hastily to them, urging them forward, when I saw two full regiments, one in their front and the other partly to their left. Perceiving at once that they were in danger of being cut off, I ordered the first Texas to move by the left flank to their relief, which they did in a rapid and gallant manner. By this time, the enemy on our left having commenced falling back, the first Texas pressed them rapidly to their guns, which now poured into them a fire on their right flank, centre and left flank, from three different batteries, before which their well-formed line was cut down and scattered, being two hundred yards in front of our line, their situation was most critical. Riding back to the left of our line, I found the fragment of the eighteenth Georgia regiment in front of the extreme right battery of the enemy, located on the pike running by the church, which now opened upon our thinned ranks a most destructive fire; the men and officers were gallantly shooting down the gunners, and for a moment silenced them. At this time the enemy's fire was most terrific, their first line of infantry having been driven back to their guns, which now opened a furious fire, together with their second line of infantry, upon our thinned and almost annihilated ranks. By this time, our brigade having suffered so greatly that I was satisfied they could neither advance or hold their position much longer without reinforcements, riding back, to make known to General Hood our condition, I met with you, to whom I imparted this information. By this time our line commenced giving way, when I ordered them back, under cover of the woods, to the left of the church, where we halted and waited for support. None arriving, after some time, the enemy commenced advancing in full force. Seeing the hopelessness and folly of making a stand with our shattered brigade, and a remnant from other commands, the men being greatly exhausted, and many of them out of ammunition, I determined to fall back to a fence in our rear, where we met the long-looked for reinforcements, and at the same time received an order from General Hood to fall back further to the rear, to rest and collect our men. After resting a short time, we were moved back to the woods in rear of the church, from where we advanced to the fight in the morning, which position we held until late in the evening, when we were moved, by the right flank, in the direction of Sharpsburg, to a place near the centre of our line, where we remained during that night and next day, and until the recrossing of the Potomac by our army was ordered. During the engagement of

the brigade, on the 17th instant, I was drawn to the left of our line, as it first engaged the enemy, who had succeeded in flanking us on the left, and, to escape from being surrounded, changed the direction to left oblique, thus causing large intervals between the regiments on the left and right of the line. The fifth Texas, under the command of Captain Turner, moved with spirit across the field, and occupied the woods on our right, where it met the enemy and drove them and held them back until their ammunition was exhausted, and then fell back to the woods, with the balance of the brigade. The fourth Texas regiment, which in our line of battle was between the fifth and first Texas, was moved by General Hood to the extreme left of our line on the pike road, covering our flank by holding the enemy in check. This brigade went into the action numbering eight hundred and fifty-four, and lost, in killed, wounded and missing, five hundred and sixty—over one-half.

We have to mourn the loss of Majors Dale, of the first Texas, and Dingle, of Hampton's legion, two gallant officers, who fell in the thickest of the fight. Also Captains Tompkins and Smith, and Lieutenant Exum, of Hampton's legion; Lieutenants Underwood and Cleaveland, of the eighteenth Georgia; Lieutenants Huffman, Russell, Waterhouse, Patton and Thompson, of the first Texas. These brave officers all fell while gallantly leading their small bands on an enemy five times their number. They deserved a better fate than to have been, as they were, sacrificed for the want of proper support. The enemy, besides being permitted to cross the creek with scarcely any resistance to our left, were allowed to place their artillery in position during the night, not only without annoyance, but without our knowledge.

Without specially naming the officers and men, who stood firmly at their post during the whole of this terrible conflict, I feel pleased to bear testimony, with few exceptions, to the gallantry of the whole brigade. They fought desperately; their conduct was never surpassed. Fragments of regiments as they were, they moved boldly upon and drove before them the crowded lines of the enemy up to their cannon's mouth, and, with a heroism unsurpassed, fired upon their gunners, desperately struggling before yielding, which they had never been forced to do before.

I herewith transmit the reports of Captain Turner, commanding the fifth Texas regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Carter, commanding the fourth Texas; Lieutenant Colonel Work, commanding the first Texas; Lieutenant Colonel Ruff, commanding the eighteenth Georgia, and Lieutenant Colonel Gary, commanding Hampton's legion.

Respectfully submitted,

W. S. WOFFORD,  
*Colonel commanding Brigade.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL STAFFORD, COMMANDING SECOND LOUISIANA BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH REGIMENT LOUISIANA VOLUNTEERS,  
Camp near Port Royal, Va., January 21, 1863. }

Brigadier General WILLIAM B. TALIAFERRO,  
Commanding Jackson's Division:

GENERAL: I have the honor, herewith, to submit the following report. The brigade, consisting of the first, second, ninth, tenth, fifteenth, and Coppens' battalion Louisiana volunteers, reported near Gordonsville, on or about the 12th August, 1862, and was assigned to duty in the division of Major General T. J. Jackson. Being the senior colonel in the brigade, the command devolved upon me. I had command but one week, when Brigadier General W. E. Starke reported for duty and took command. Shortly after Brigadier General Starke's arrival, we took up the line of march and continued it until we reached the ford on the Rappahannock, near Brandy Station, on or about the 21st August, at which period we found the enemy strongly posted on the opposite bank. On the morning of the 22nd we resumed the march, and crossed the Rappahannock at Major's mill, on Hazel fork, on the 25th; passed through Thoroughfare Gap on the morning of the 27th, and reached Manassas the same day. That night we fell back, and took position near the little farm called Groveton. On the afternoon of the 28th, the enemy appearing in sight, we formed our line of battle on the crest of the hill overlooking Groveton, and awaited his attack. The battle commenced at five o'clock, P. M., and lasted until nine o'clock, P. M., resulting in the repulse of the enemy, we holding the battle-ground. In this engagement, the Brigadier General commanding the division receiving a severe wound, the command of the division devolved upon Brigadier General W. E. Starke, and the command of the brigade fell upon me. On the morning of the 29th, being in reserve, we were not thrown forward until about twelve o'clock, at which time we received an order to charge. Driving the enemy before us, we again fell back to our position, remaining in it during the night. On the morning of the 30th, Brigadier General W. E. Starke ordered me to send half of one of my regiments forward and occupy the railroad cut as a point of observation, to be held at all hazards. About eight o'clock, in the morning, the enemy commenced throwing forward large bodies of skirmishers into the woods on our left, who quickly formed themselves into regiments and moved forward by brigade to the attack, and massing a large body of troops at this point, with the evident design of forcing us from our position. They made repeated charges on us while in this position, but were compelled to retire in confusion, sustaining heavy loss and gaining nothing. It was at this point that the ammunition of the brigade gave out; the men procured some from the dead bodies of their comrades, but the supply was not sufficient,

and, in the absence of ammunition, the men fought with rocks and held their position. The enemy retreated, and we pressed forward to the turnpike road, there halted and camped for the night. On the 31st we took up the line of march, and, on the 1st of September, at Chantilly, we again met the enemy and repulsed them. We resumed our line of march; passed through Dranesville and Leesburg; crossed the Potomac on the 5th September, passed through Frederick City, Maryland, and camped two miles beyond. Recrossed the Potomac on the 11th of September at Williamsport, passed through Martinsburg, thence to Harper's Ferry, and took part in the reduction of that place. Crossed the Potomac at Shepherdstown on the 16th of September, and the same evening formed line of battle, slept on our arms and in position, near Sharpsburg, Maryland. Early on the morning of the 17th the engagement became general, continuing throughout the day, the brigade sustaining its part. It was in this battle that Brigadier General W. E Starke fell, while gallantly leading his command. Remained in line of battle all night of the 17th; remained in position on the day of the 18th; recrossed the Potomac, near Shepherdstown, on the morning of the 19th; held in reserve on the 20th; went into camp, near Martinsburg, on the 21st; remained in camp until the 28th, and moved to Bunker Hill on or about the 5th of October. My command, the ninth regiment Louisiana volunteers, was transferred from Starke's brigade to that commanded by Brigadier General Harry T. Hays. No report of casualties has been received from Coppen's battalion, Captain Raine's and Captain Brockenbrough's batteries. Enclosed find list of casualties of the first, second, ninth, tenth and fifteenth regiments Louisiana volunteers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. A. STAFFORD,  
*Colonel commanding Brigade.*

REPORT OF COLONEL McRAE, COMMANDING GARLAND'S BRIGADE, OF BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

HEADQUARTERS GARLAND'S BRIGADE, Oct. 20, 1862.

MAJOR: I submit the following report of the action of the brigade in the battle of 17th September, near Sharpsburg:

The brigade was moved from its position on the Hagerstown road to the support of Colquitt's, which was then about engaging the enemy on our left and front. This was about ten o'clock. We moved by the left flank until we reached a point near the woods; where line of battle was formed and the advance begun. Some confusion ensued from conflicting orders. When the brigade crossed the fence it was halted and formed and again advanced. Coming in sight of the enemy, the firing was commenced steadily, with good will and from an excellent position. But, unaccountably to me, an order was given to cease firing, that General Ripley's brigade was in front. This produced great confusion, and, in the midst of it, a force of the enemy appearing on the right, it commenced to break and a general panic ensued. It was in vain that the field and most of the company officers exerted themselves to allay it. The troops left the field in confusion, the field officers, company officers and myself bringing up the rear. Subsequently several portions of the brigade, under Colonel Iverson, Captain Garnett and others, were rallied and brought into action, rendering useful service. I refer to their general reports for this conduct.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. F. McRAE,  
Colonel commanding Brigade.

REPORT OF COLONEL PENDLETON, COMMANDING  
STARKE'S BRIGADE, OF OPERATIONS IN MARY-  
LAND.

HEADQUARTERS STARKE'S BRIGADE,  
*Camp near Martinsburg, October 20, 1862.* }

Lieutenant MANN PAGE,

*A. A. A. General First Division, Jackson's Corps:*

LIEUTENANT: In obedience to the order of Lieutenant General Jackson, requiring of brigade commanders reports of the participation of their commands in the late engagements with the enemy, I have the honor to submit the following statement of the part taken by this brigade in the capture of Harper's Ferry and the immediate following battle of Sharpsburg, Maryland:

Having marched from Martinsburg about dawn on the morning of the 13th September, we reached the vicinity of Bolivar Heights, where the enemy was strongly entrenched, shortly after noon on the same day and bivouacked on the Charlestown road, just beyond the range of his guns, until two o'clock the next day. At that hour we were ordered to move by an unfrequentated road, to our left and almost at right angles with the Charlestown road, to a position nearer the Potomac, supporting the Baltimore battery of light artillery, commanded by Captain Brockenbrough and attached to this brigade, which opened upon the enemy and continued its fire until dark, the enemy responding, but without damage to us. At 8 o'clock, P. M., when darkness entirely concealed the movement, we were ordered to move forward in close proximity to the Potomac and within close range of the enemy's artillery; in obedience to which order, we silently occupied a wooded ridge overlooking the river and along the crest of which a road leads directly to the enemy's fortified position. The brigade being formed in line across and at right angles with the course of the ridge, we lay upon our arms till nearly daylight—the quietude of the night being unbroken save by a sharp musketry fire of a few minutes duration in front of our right and a few hundred yards distant, which proved to have occurred between two regiments of the enemy on picket duty, who had mutually mistaken each other for foes. Shortly before dawn we resumed our position of the evening before, again supporting the Baltimore battery, which reopened its fire and delivered a few telling shots, some of them, I regret to say, after the besieged hoisted the white flag. It is but justice, however, to add that from the position we occupied the flag was imperceptible, nor were we aware of the surrender until a message was received from the Major General commanding directing a cessation of the fire.

It gives me pleasure to be able to say that not a single casualty of any kind is to be reported in this brigade on that occasion, although the result was so glorious to our arms.

## BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

Having previously cooked two days' rations, we left our bivouac, near Bolivar Heights, on Tuesday, the 16th September, at two and-a-half o'clock, A. M., and took up the line of march by way of Shepherdstown, again crossed the Potomac, and halted about noon in the vicinity and to the southwest of the town of Sharpsburg, Md., where we rested in line of battle till near sunset, at which time we resumed our line of march, and moved forward about a mile to take the position assigned to us on the extreme left, preparatory to the anticipated combat of the next morning. In doing so we encountered the shells from three of the enemy's batteries, and had the misfortune, about dark, to lose several of our number, amongst whom was the gallant young Gordon, lieutenant in the ninth Louisiana regiment, and acting assistant adjutant general of the brigade, who was killed by a shell, which cut off both his legs at the thigh.

Under command of Brigadier General Starke, who remained with us constantly, we lay upon our arms all night, throwing out a line of skirmishers in front and to the left. During the early part of the night we were much disturbed by several of the enemy's batteries, which, crossing their fire, cut the tree tops over our heads, and our rest was broken at intervals during the whole night by occasional and spirited firing between the skirmishers. At the break of day on the 17th, the artillery reopened, and the rapidly increasing rattle of musketry notified us of the commencement of the general engagement with a foe vastly superior to us in numbers and confident of an easy victory. Our men, although much worn down with long and rapid marches and but recently from the bloody field of Manassas, were again ready to meet our boastful enemy with undaunted front, and when, at seven o'clock, A. M., the order "forward" was given, it was heard with enthusiasm and obeyed with alacrity from one end of the brigade to the other. We had scarcely emerged from the woods in which we had rested during the night, when we found ourselves face to face with the enemy, heavily massed and within close musket range. Still, we charged forward in the face of a murderous fire, which thinned our ranks at every step, until our progress was arrested by a lane, on either side of which was a high staked fence, stretching along our whole front, to pass which, under the circumstances, was an impossibility. The men, being formed along this fence, kept up an accurate and well sustained fire, which visibly told upon the enemy's ranks, and although we suffered greatly as well from musketry in front as from a battery on our left, which enfiladed us with grape and canister, still not a man was seen to flinch from the conflict. By some mistake or misapprehension, the troops which were intended, as I have since been informed, to support us on the left, failed to get in position as early as was expected, and, our left being unprotected, we were about to be outflanked, when the order to retire was given and obeyed—the men withdrawing in tolerable order and fighting as they fell back. It was in this early part of the engagement that our brave and chivalric leader, Brigadier General William E. Starke, loved and honored by

every man under his command, fell, pierced by three minie balls, and was carried from the field in a dying condition, surviving his wounds but an hour.

The enemy, flushed with their supposed success in the first onset, rent the air with shouts and pressed upon us with redoubled energy. Their exultation, however, was but short-lived. The command of the brigade having devolved upon Colonel L. A. Stafford, of the ninth Louisiana, he lost no time in reforming our somewhat disordered line, when, other troops coming to our support, we gathered our strength for a fresh charge upon the rapidly advancing and exulting foe, and, with a determination to win or die, hurled ourselves against his lines with an impetus which first staggered, then drove him flying from the field, and leaving behind him hundreds of his dead and wounded. The enemy being thus completely repulsed on his right, did not again offer to renew the combat on that portion of his lines during the day. Later in the day the brigade was again called out to support a battery, when, in consequence of a severe contusion of the foot received by Colonel Stafford early in the action, which prevented his taking the field, the command devolved upon the undersigned. Those who had passed unharmed through the severe conflict of the morning evinced again their readiness to meet the foe by promptly taking the field, though they were not again called upon to fire a gun.

I beg leave to speak in the highest terms of the gallantry and fearlessness displayed by Colonel L. A. Stafford, of the ninth Louisiana regiment, who commanded the brigade in the morning. Colonel J. M. Williams, commanding the second Louisiana regiment, was severely wounded by a minie ball, which passed through his chest, whilst gallantly leading his regiment in the first charge. Lieutenant Colonel M. Nolan, of the first Louisiana, painfully wounded in the leg, remained at his post during the fight, commanding his regiment with coolness and bravery. The tenth Louisiana was commanded in the engagement by Captain Henry D. Morrill, who faithfully discharged the duty devolved upon him. It is a noteworthy fact that not a single field officer in the brigade, who was on duty on that day, escaped untouched. I was so fortunate as to escape with only a slight contusion of the ankle from a spherical case shot which passed between my feet. When all did their duty so heroically, it would seem almost invidious to mention particular names; but, on some other occasion which shall seem opportune, it will give me pleasure to mention the names of those officers who merit special notice. A list of the casualties in the different regiments composing this brigade has been heretofore furnished.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
EDMOND PENDLETON,  
*Colonel Fifteenth Louisiana Regiment, commanding Brigade.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL WALTON OF BATTLE OF RAPPAHANNOCK STATION.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS, RIGHT WING,  
Department Northern Virginia, August 25, 1862.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to an order received from Major General Longstreet, on the evening of the 22nd instant, accompanied by Major J. J. Garnett, chief of artillery on the staff of Brigadier General D. R. Jones, and Captain C. W. Squiers, commanding the first company of Washington artillery, I made a reconnaissance of the position of the enemy in the vicinity of Beverly's ford and Rappahannock Station, on the Rappahannock river, with the view, as instructed, to place the long-range guns under my command in position to open upon the enemy's batteries early on the following morning.

Having, during the night, made all necessary preparation, at day-break, on the morning of the 23rd, I placed in position on the left, at Beverly's ford, Captain Miller's battery, Washington artillery, four light twelve-pounder Napoleon guns; a section of two ten-pounder Parrott guns, under Captain Rogers, and one ten-pounder Parrott gun, under Captain Anderson; and on the hill in front of General D. R. Jones' headquarters, on the right, Captain Squiers' battery Washington artillery, four three-inch rifles; Captain Stribling's battery, one three-inch rifle and three light twelve pounder Napoleon guns; a section of Captain Chapman's battery, one three-inch rifle and one light twelve-pounder Napoleon gun, under Lieutenant Chapman; and two Blakely guns of Captain Maurin's battery, under Lieutenant Landry. The heavy fog prevailing obscured the opposite bank of the river and the enemy's positions entirely from view until about six o'clock, A. M., at which hour, the sun having partially dispelled the fog, I opened fire from Captain Miller's battery upon a battery of long-range guns of the enemy, directly in front, at a range of about one thousand yards. By previous arrangement, the batteries on the right and left of Captain Miller's position immediately opened, and the fire became general along the line. We had not long to wait for the response of the enemy, he immediately opening upon all our positions a rapid and vigorous fire from all his batteries, some in positions until then undiscovered by us. The battery engaged by Captain Miller was silenced in about forty minutes, notwithstanding the long range guns under Captains Rogers and Anderson, on the left, had, shortly after the commencement of the engagement, been withdrawn from action and placed under shelter of the hill on which they had been posted, thus leaving the battery of the enemy, which it was intended these guns should engage, free to direct against Miller, and the batteries on the hill on the right, a most destructive enfilading fire. At this time Captain Miller changed position and directed his fire against this battery, when a battery, on

the right of that which had been silenced, opened upon him, subjecting him to a cross fire and causing him to lose heavily in men and horses. The fire was continued by Miller's battery alone on the left until seven o'clock, when, after consultation with General Jones, and the firing of the enemy having greatly slackened, I ordered him to retire by half battery, which was handsomely done, in good order. At this time Lieutenant Brewer fell, mortally wounded. The combat on the right was gallantly fought by the batteries there placed in position. Captain Squiers assumed command of that part of the field, and won for himself renewed honors by the handsome manner in which he handled his batteries, and for the good judgment and coolness he displayed under the heavy fire of the enemy, to which he was subjected during four hours, without intermission. I enclose herewith Captain Miller's report [A] and that of Captain Squiers [B] (of the operations on the right) for reference and for particulars, to which I respectfully ask the attention of the General commanding. The object sought to be obtained by this engagement, I am happy to say, was fully accomplished by driving the enemy from all his positions before nightfall, and causing him to withdraw from our front entirely during the night. I have to lament the loss, in this engagement, of a zealous, brave and most efficient officer in Lieutenant Isaac W. Brewer, third company Washington artillery, who fell at the head of his section at the moment it was being withdrawn from the field, and of many non-commissioned officers and privates. The officers and men, in all the batteries engaged, are deserving the highest praise for their gallantry upon the field. The attention of the General commanding is respectfully directed to those named particularly in the reports of Captains Miller and Squiers. Too much praise cannot be awarded to Captain Miller and his brave company for the stubborn and unflinching manner in which they fought the enemy's batteries, in such superior force and position, on the left, and to Captains Squiers and Stribling, and Lieutenants Landry and Chapman, on the right. I am indebted to Captain Middleton, of Brigadier General Drayton's staff, to Lieutenant Williams, of General D. R. Jones' staff, and to Lieutenant William M. Owen, adjutant Washington artillery, all of whom were constantly with me under fire during the engagement, for their valuable assistance and zealous, fearless conduct on the field. There are none more brave or more deserving consideration than these gentlemen. I annex a list of casualties, [C,] and have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

J. B. WALTON,  
*Colonel and Chief of Artillery, Right Wing.*

# REPORT OF COLONEL WALTON OF SECOND BATTLE OF MANASSAS.

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION WASHINGTON ARTILLERY, }  
November 30th, 1862. }

To Major G. M. SORRELL,

*Assistant Adjutant General, Right Wing, A. N. V.:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to transmit the following report of the operations of the battalion of Washington Artillery, of New Orleans, under my command, on the 29th, 30th and 31st August last, at and after the second battle of Manassas:

On the 29th August, 1862, the four batteries composing the battalion were assigned and served as follows: The fourth company, consisting of two six-pound bronze guns, and two twelve-pound howitzers, under Captain D. F. Eshleman, Lieutenants Norcom, Battles and Apps, with Pickett's brigade; the second company, with two six-pound bronze guns, and two twelve-pound howitzers, under Captain Richardson, Lieutenants Hawes, De Russey and Britton, with Toombs' brigade; the first company, with three three-inch rifle guns, under Capt. C. W. Squiers, Lieutenants E. Owens, Galbraith and Brown, and the third company, with four light twelve-pound guns. (Napoleon,) under Captain M. B. Miller, Lieutenants McElroy and Hero, in reserve.

About noon, on the 29th, the two batteries in reserve having halted near the village of Gainesville, on the Warrenton and Centreville turnpike, were ordered forward by General Longstreet, to engage the enemy then in our front, and near the village of Groveton. Captains Miller and Squiers at once proceeded to the position indicated by the General and opened fire upon the enemy's batteries. Immediately in Captain Miller's front, he discovered a battery of the enemy, distant about twelve hundred yards. Beyond this battery, and on a more elevated position, were posted the enemy's rifle batteries. He opened upon the battery nearest him, and, after a spirited engagement of three-quarters of an hour, completely silenced it and compelled it to leave the field. He then turned his attention to the enemy's rifle batteries, and engaged them until, having exhausted his ammunition, he retired from the field.

Captain Squiers, on reaching his position on the left of Captain Miller's battery, at once opened with his usual accuracy upon the enemy's batteries. Unfortunately, after the first fire, one of his guns, having become disabled by the blowing out of the bushing of the vent, was sent from the field. Captain Squiers then placed the remaining section of his battery under command of Lieutenant Owen, and rode to the left to place additional guns (that had been sent forward to his assistance) in position. At this time the enemy's infantry were engaged by the forces on the left of the position occupied by our batteries, and, while the enemy retreated in confusion before the charge of our veterans, the section under Lieutenant Owen poured a destructive

fire into their affrighted ranks. Scores were seen to fall, until finally the once beautiful line melted confusedly into the woods. The enemy's artillery having withdrawn beyond our range, the section was ordered from the field. Both batteries, the first and third, in this action, fully maintained their well-earned reputation for skillful practice and gallant behavior. With this duel ended the operations on the left of our line for the day.

The next morning, 30th August, the second company, Captain J. B. Richardson, was ordered forward from its position on the Manassas Gap railroad to join its brigade, (Toombs'), then moving forward towards the enemy. Captain Richardson pushed forward until, arriving near the Chinn house, he was informed that our infantry had charged and taken a battery near that position, but, owing to heavy reinforcements thrown forward by the enemy, were unable to hold it without the assistance of artillery. He immediately took position on the left of the Chinn house and opened on the enemy, who were advancing, rapidly, in large numbers. After firing a short time, he moved his battery forward about four hundred yards, and succeeded in holding the captured battery of four Napoleons, forcing the enemy back and compelling a battery immediately in his front, and which was annoying greatly our infantry, to retire. He then turned the captured guns upon their late owners, and at night brought them from the field, with their horses and harness.

Captain Richardson, in his report, makes special mention for gallantry of privates J. B. Cleveland and W. W. Davis, who were the first to reach the captured battery, and, with the assistance of some infantry, fired nearly twenty-five rounds before being relieved by their comrades. Lieutenant Hawes had his horse shot under him during this battle.

While Richardson, with the second, was doing such gallant service near the Chinn house, Eshleman, with the fourth, with his short-range guns, was doing good work in the same neighborhood. Following his brigade, (Pickett's,) he shelled the woods in their front, while they advanced in line of battle against the enemy, whose skirmishers were seen on the edge of the wood. Finding it would be impracticable to follow the brigade, owing to the broken nature of the ground, he passed rapidly to the right and front, going into battery and firing from every elevated position from which he could enfilade the enemy, until he had passed entirely to the right of General Jones' position. He now held a most desirable position, (overlooking nearly the whole space in front of the Chinn house,) from which his shells fell into the ranks of the enemy with great execution. A persistent attack on the front and flank drove the enemy back into the woods, and now the immense clouds of dust rising from the Centreville road indicated that he was in full retreat. He was directed by General D. R. Jones to move forward and shell the wood and road, which he continued to do until directed by General J. E. B. Stuart to send a section of his battery to the hills in front of the Conrad house, to fire into a column of cavalry advancing in his rear. The section under Lieutenant Norcom was detached, took position on the left of the Conrad house, and fired into the

enemy until directed to cease by General Stuart, his object having been accomplished.

The remaining section of the battery, under Lieut. Battles, was then ordered by Captain Eshleman across the Sudley road, firing as it advanced, into the retreating enemy. At this time, Captain Eshleman's only support was one company of sixty men of General Jenkins' sharpshooters, under Captain Lee. After a short interval, the enemy again appeared in force near the edge of the wood. Captain E. immediately changed his front to the left and poured into the enemy's ranks two rounds of canister, with deadly effect. Those not killed or wounded ran in disorder. After throwing a few shells into the woods, Captain E. retired about two hundred yards to the rear, being unwilling to risk his section with such a meagre support.

In a few minutes an order was brought from General Stuart directing the section to be brought again to the vicinity of the Conrad house. It was now dark, and Captain E. kept up, from this last position, a moderate fire until nine o'clock, in the direction of the Centreville road, when he was directed to retire, with Lieutenant Norcom's section, that had joined him on the field, and rest his men.

Captain Eshleman, in his report, applauds highly the conduct of his officers, non-commissioned officers and men, to whose coolness and judgment he was indebted for the rapid evolutions of his battery and precision of his fire.

The next day, August 31, 1862, Lieutenant Owen, with two guns of the first company, accompanied General Stuart, commanding cavalry, in pursuit of the enemy to and beyond Germantown. They came up with the enemy at several points, driving him ahead of them and capturing five hundred prisoners.

Captain Squiers, on the same day, with one gun, accompanied Colonel Rosser to Manassas, going in rear of the enemy, capturing a large amount of stores, (quartermasters' and surgical,) ambulances, horses, &c

My casualties in this battle were one killed, private H. N. White, of second company, and nine wounded.

Thus ended the operations of this battalion in this great second battle of Manassas, fought almost on the same ground and in sight of the field where our guns first pealed forth a little more than a year before.

I have the satisfaction, in conclusion, to say, that all the officers and men gave, in this important battle, renewed evidence of their devotion, judgment, and cool bravery, in most trying positions. No eulogy of mine can add to the reputation they so worthily enjoy, earned upon bloody fields.

I am under obligations to Lieutenant W. M. Owen, my always devoted and brave adjutant, for distinguished services under fire, and to Corporal-Sergeant Montgomery, whom I detailed to assist me on the several days, for cool bravery and gallant deportment in carrying orders in face of the enemy, during the first and second days.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

J. B. WALTON, *Colonel commanding.*

# REPORT OF COLONEL WALTON OF BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION WASHINGTON ARTILLERY, {  
December 4, 1862. }

To Major G. M. SORREL,

*A. A. General Right Wing, Army Northern Virginia:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the several batteries composing the battalion of Washington artillery, under my command, in the engagements before Sharpsburg, Maryland, on the 16th and 17th September last:

On the 15th September, 1862, the battalion, attached to the right wing of the Army of Northern Virginia, reached Sharpsburg, Maryland. Here a line of battle was formed, with the Antietam in our front, where the forces under Generals Lee and Longstreet awaited the approach of McClellan's army.

The four companies of this battalion were posted on the line as follows; the first company, Captain C. W. Squiers, Lieutenants E. Owen, Galbraith and Brown, with two three-inch rifles and two ten-pounder Parrott guns, on the right of the turnpike, running through the centre, and to the front of the town; the third company, Captain M. B. Miller, Lieutenants McElroy and Hero, with four twelve-pounder Napoleons, to the right of Captain Squiers; to the right of Captain Miller, across a ravine and in an orchard in front of General D. R. Jones' position, were placed the second company, Captain J. B. Richardson, Lieutenants Hawes, Britton and De Russey, with two Napoleons and two twelve pounder howitzers; and the fourth company, Captain B. F. Eshleman, Lieutenants Norcom, Battles and Apps, with two six-pounder bronze guns and two twelve-pounder howitzers.

During the afternoon, the enemy made his appearance across the Antietam, and opened upon our lines with his long-range batteries. We did not reply, our guns not being able to reach his position.

The next morning, (16th,) the enemy having planted some batteries nearer our position and becoming annoying, I ordered the batteries to open all along our line, and engaged him in an artillery duel. This commenced at eleven o'clock, A. M., and ended at twenty minutes to twelve, a period of forty minutes; some of his batteries were silenced, others we could not reach, and having no ammunition to spare, we ceased firing, by order of General Longstreet, and drew the guns under cover of the hill.

Captain Squiers' battery of rifles was the only one of the battalion engaged in this conflict. Shortly after this, firing ceased. Captain Richardson, having been placed in a position to watch the bridge on the Antietam, in front of General Toombs' brigade, with his two Napoleons, opened fire with one gun upon a column of the enemy, to

the left of the bridge. After firing five rounds, they retired out of his range.

On the morning of the 17th September, our batteries still remaining in the positions of the day before, the enemy crossed large bodies of infantry in front of Captain Squiers' position. They also opened their batteries upon him. Paying little attention to the artillery practice of the enemy, he quietly awaited the advance of his infantry and concentrated his fire upon them, and succeeded in driving them from view; he then withdrew his guns and allowed the batteries of the enemy to expend much ammunition. Shortly afterwards, the enemy advanced one regiment of infantry. Captain Squiers then turned all his guns and those of Garden's battery upon him, which drove him back; he rallied a second time, but again he was driven behind his hill; here he was reinforced and advanced again; he was again broken, but rallied within four hundred yards of the batteries, from which position he deployed skirmishers and annoyed our men with the bullets of his sharpshooters. He again sounded the charge, and advanced within canister range; we opened a heavy fire upon him, he broke and our supports, under General Garnett, charged him. Being nearly out of ammunition, Captain Squiers withdrew his battery to refill his chests.

One ten-pounder Parrott gun, under Lieutenant Galbraith, afterwards engaged the enemy on our right until dark; the other ten-pounder Parrott was disabled during the action and sent from the field.

During the action Captain Squiers was deprived of the valuable services of Lieutenant E. Owen, who was wounded in the thigh by a piece of shell, while acting with his usual gallantry with his guns. Captain Squiers, in his report, compliments highly his Lieutenants, Owen, Galbraith and Brown, who were in the hottest of the action, and proved themselves brave and efficient officers, worthy leaders of brave men.

Sergeant-major C. L. C. Dupuy went into action with this battery and did good service. At quarter past nine o'clock, A. M., Captain Miller's battery of four Napoleons was ordered from its original position to a point to the left of the main road and near our centre. Here Captain Miller was so fortunate as to meet with General Longstreet, who assigned him a position. He immediately opened upon the enemy's infantry, who were advancing upon our left and front. Here he suffered considerably from the fire of the enemy's sharpshooters, losing two of his gunners and several of his cannoneers wounded, when, ascertaining that the enemy was beyond effective range, he was ordered by General Longstreet to cease firing and go under cover. Here he remained twenty minutes, when, the enemy again advancing, he ordered his battery again into position. Lieutenant Hero having been wounded, and Lieutenant McElroy having been left to watch the movements of the enemy on the right, Captain Miller found himself the only officer with his company, and, having barely men enough left to work a section effectively, he opened upon the enemy with two pieces, with splendid effect. After an action of half an hour, he removed his section to a more advantageous position, an hundred yards to the front and right, placing the remaining section under Sergeant Ellis,

directing him to take it completely under cover. He then continued the action until ammunition was nearly exhausted, when Sergeant Ellis brought up one of the remaining caissons.

The enemy had made two determined attempts to force our line, and had been twice signally repulsed; they were now advancing the third time and were within canister range, when Sergeant Ellis, who had succeeded in rallying some infantry to his assistance, brought one of the guns of his section into action on Miller's left and gave them canister, with terrible effect. The three guns succeeded in checking the enemy's advance and remained in action until the ammunition was exhausted, when they were retired to be refilled.

After procuring the required ammunition, Captain Miller was returning to his former position, when he was directed by General Lee to an elevated and commanding position on the right and rear of the town, where General A. P. Hill had but just begun his attack. Here I placed him in charge of the guns that had been ordered to this position, leaving Lieutenant McElroy to command his section, and he continued the fight until its close at nightfall. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on Captain Miller for his stubborn defence of the centre for several hours; to Lieutenants Hero and McElroy, Sergeants Ellis, Bier (chief artificer) and Dempsey, (artificer,) for their gallantry. This part of the action was under the immediate eye of General Longstreet, commanding, and his staff, who, when Captain Miller's gunners were exhausted, dismounted and assisted the working of the guns. Captain Miller was compelled, owing to his loss in horses, to leave one caisson on the field; he endeavored to bring it off the next day, but it was deemed unadvisable, it being in range of the enemy's sharpshooters, and it was abandoned and subsequently destroyed. Captain Richardson engaged the enemy, in his front, with the two Napoleons of the second company, until one o'clock, P. M., when one of the guns was disabled by a shot from one of the three batteries that had been playing upon him, and he withdrew through the town of Sharpsburg and joined his section of howitzers on the right and rear. Procuring ammunition and replacing his disabled guns, he reported, with his full battery, to General Toombs, took position on the right and began firing at the enemy's infantry, who, at this time, had crossed the bridge and were advancing in large force up the hill to his left and finally getting out of his range, when he retired to a new position. I afterwards ordered Captain Richardson forward, with his section of Napoleons and the ten-pounder Parrott gun of the first company, under Lieutenant Galbraith, to the position on the right near the guns under Miller, when he opened fire and continued in action until the close of the engagement at nightfall.

The section of twelve-pounder howitzers, under Lieutenants Hawes and DeRussey, were brought forward at the same time and assigned a position by General Toombs near his brigade. Here they opened on the enemy, at a distance of five hundred yards, and continued firing until the enemy was driven out of range. Lieutenant J. D. Britton was wounded in the arm, late in the evening, after making himself conspicuous during the action for his coolness and soldierly

bearing. Captain Richardson, in his report, expresses himself entirely satisfied with the conduct of his officers, non-commissioned officers and men; they behaved in such a manner as to reflect credit upon the "second," and the corps of which they are a part. The "fourth," under Eshleman, was not idle during this eventful day, when the battalion was so actively and effectively employed. About noon on the 17th, he was directed by General Jones, in front of whose position he was placed, to remove his battery to a position to guard the ford below the bridge held by General Toombs. The battery was placed in position between the Blackford house and the ford, and opened fire upon the enemy, who were crossing in force. A long-range battery of the enemy, on the opposite bank of the stream, opened upon and enfiladed his guns, and he was compelled to retire; not, however, before he had driven the enemy back from the ford. He then received orders from General D. R. Jones to hold the enemy in check, if possible, until the arrival of General A. P. Hill, whose division was near at hand. The enemy soon made another attempt to cross with infantry and cavalry. Captain Eshleman took a position nearer the ford and, under cover of a hill, which protected him from the enemy's battery, opened fire upon him with case and shell. At this juncture General Pender arrived, with a portion of General Hill's command, and came to Eshleman's support. After driving the enemy back a second time, he kept up a moderate shelling of the woods near the ford till night, when he was ordered to retire and bivouac. Captain Eshleman pays his Lieutenants, Norcom, Battles and Apps, a just compliment for their gallant conduct throughout the day, and especially during the steady and unflinching defence of the ford. His non-commissioned officers and men vied with their comrades of the "first," "second" and "third" companies, and added fresh laurels to the high standing of the corps. Captain Squiers, in the latter part of the day, succeeded in refilling the chests of the remaining section of his battery and reported to General Tcombs with his two three-inch rifles and a section each of the Maryland light artillery and Riley's battery, but his services were not then required. The enemy had been driven back at all points. The casualties in this engagement were four killed, twenty-eight wounded and two missing. This closes the imperfect records of the action of the several companies of the battalion of Washington Artillery in the eventful battle before Sharpsburg, Maryland.

It is to be hoped the General commanding, under whose immediate eye we fought on both days, will find in it enough to satisfy him that, without the incentive of revenge for wrongs, the soldiers of Louisiana are ever among the foremost in the performance of patriotic duty to their country.

Always ready and ever watchful and zealous, Adjutant N. M. Owen has again placed me under obligation for services on the field. Frequently, in my capacity of chief of artillery, during the two days, had I occasion to send him to distant parts of the field, under the heaviest fire. Gallantly and unhesitatingly he executed every order. Color-Sergeant Montgomery, as at the battle of Manassas, served me

as aid, and was generally under fire during the engagements of the two days. He is a deserving and brave gentleman. Ordnance Sergeant Brazleman deserves special mention, for his assiduity and unflagging devotion in supplying ammunition and in the performance of all his duties. He, on this occasion, added to his well established reputation of an intelligent, brave and meritorious soldier.

I am, Major, very respectfully,

J. B. WALTON,  
*Colonel commanding.*

REPORT OF COLONEL CRUTCHFIELD OF SECOND BATTALION OF MANASSAS.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY SECOND CORPS, }  
March 14, 1863. }

Colonel CHARLES J. FAULKNER,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the artillery of this army corps in the engagements known as the second battle of Manassas:

On the afternoon of Thursday our forces were so disposed that, Sudley Mills being to their left and front, the arc they formed presented a convex front towards the pike from Groveton to Centreville, along which the enemy advanced from Warrenton. About half-past four, P. M., I think, I received orders from General Jackson to move up the whole artillery force, which was then lying around Sudley Mills. This I proceeded to do, leaving five pieces of Captains Caskie's and Cutshaw's batteries on the opposite side of the Catharpin run, in position to command the ford there, for the security of the wagon train. The batteries of Captains Wooding and Garber (each of four guns) got up first, and went into action, firing upon the columns of the enemy advancing along the Warrenton and Centreville road. The head of this column had already reached, if not passed, Groveton, and, wheeling off there to its left, formed line of battle perpendicular to the pike and facing to the rear of their still marching column. This line then moving down, these two batteries were withdrawn, one by order of General Jackson, and the other by order of Brigadier General Taliaferro. The other batteries did not get up in time to participate in the action before it became an engagement of infantry, just near the edge of the woods, under which circumstances it was not possible to get the guns in position before dark.

Early on Friday, the 29th, the enemy renewed the attack over nearly the same ground, while our troops occupied pretty generally the same position. His infantry being repulsed by ours, artillery was thrown out in front of our right to complete it. The batteries of Captains Poague, Carpenter, Dement, Brockenbrough and Latimer, under Major Shumaker, were so engaged, facing obliquely towards Groveton, while the battery of Captain Braxton was placed further to our right, bearing on the road from Groveton to Warrenton, in case the enemy should advance from that direction, rather in rear of the other batteries. This did not, however, happen, and so Captain Braxton's battery was not engaged then. The other batteries did not all come into action at once.

The enemy endeavored to cover his repulse by batteries thrown into position to play on the first of ours that opened on his retiring

infantry. These were answered by fresh batteries of ours, and thus began a very fierce artillery duel, which lasted till about ten o'clock, A. M., our batteries being gradually withdrawn, and the enemy moving around more to our left, to select another point of attack.

His next effort, later in the day, was directed against Brigadier General Gregg's brigade, which, forming the right of Major General A. P. Hill's division, joined the second Virginia brigade, which formed the left of Jackson's division. This being in the woods, no artillery was placed there, but, as the enemy was repulsed, a section of Captain Pegram's battery was brought up and fired a few shots.

The enemy's next attack was still further to the left. At this time General A. P. Hill's brigades were posted from right to left, in this order: Gregg's, Field's, Thomas', Branch's, Pender's and Archer's. On the left (of the line) was Captain Braxton's battery of six guns; to the right of General Archer's brigade was Captain Crenshaw's battery of four guns; and to its right, to the left and rear of General Branch's brigade, was Captain Latham's battery of four guns, commanded by Lieutenant Potts. About two o'clock, P. M., the enemy made an assault upon the front of Generals Thomas, Branch and Field, which, of course, (as was the case with his former and subsequent attacks,) was preceded and accompanied by a heavy shelling of the adjacent woods. He also brought up two rifle guns on his right, which opened on the position occupied by General Branch's brigade, in a clump of woods, while his infantry attempted to charge across the field in front. Their guns were speedily driven off by Captain Braxton's battery, which was moved still further to our left for the purpose, and their infantry was easily repelled. In a short time the attack was renewed, over the same ground and in the same way. By this time, the batteries of Captains Crenshaw and Latham had been moved out so as to get an oblique fire on their infantry, and also to bear on the battery on their right. The latter was quickly forced to retire by the fire of the batteries of Captains Braxton and Crenshaw, while the latter, with that of Captain Latham, poured a heavy fire on their infantry at about four hundred and fifty yards distance. The attack was of short duration, and they were again repulsed, and this time followed up by General Branch's brigade. In a short time, after entering the woods, the latter was driven out and followed by the enemy, who were checked at the edge of the woods by the fire of these batteries, and again quickly repulsed by fresh infantry, (General Lawton's division, I believe,) and General Branch's brigade was reformed. The fight then shifted more to the right, as General Hill ordered an advance of his line, (the enemy having fallen back obliquely towards our right.) As Brigadier General Pender's brigade advanced directly to the front, Captain Crenshaw's battery was moved forward and shelled the woods in front, while Captain Braxton's battery was moved around to the right of General Hill's line and opened fire on the retiring enemy there, until General Hood's brigade drove the enemy from their position on the heights opposite Groveton.

On Saturday, the 30th instant, this army corps occupied still the

same position. About three, P. M., the enemy attacked along our front, having advanced from the direction of Centreville. In this attack his line exposed its left flank to batteries on the rising ground from our right across to the Groveton and Warrenton pike. Accordingly, the batteries of Captains Johnson, D'Aquin, Rice, Wooding, Poague, Carpenter, Brockenbrough and Latimer were so placed, in all eighteen guns, their right joining the left of General Longstreet's batteries. Their fire was directed upon the last line of the enemy's forces, which was broken under it, just as it nearly reached the edge of the woods, and never reformed within their range. As soon as it was observed to be giving away, I moved forward Captain Garber's battery of four guns at a gallop, to move down into the plain below, so as to get an enfilading position on their other lines when they should be repulsed from the woods in which they were engaged with our infantry, and so endeavor to convert the repulse into a rout. Just as the battery was getting into position and the enemy began to fall back from the woods, Brigadier General Early's brigade charged from the woods and, effecting a change of front perpendicularly forward to the left, formed a line between the battery and the enemy, so that the former could not fire. The same movement checked also the fire of all the short-ranged guns from the hill, and so they were withdrawn, and the others, viz: those of Captains Brockenbrough, Latimer and D'Aquin, were at once moved round to the range of hills to the right of the Groveton and Centreville road, where the enemy were concentrating a very heavy fire of artillery on General Longstreet's line. Here they engaged the enemy's batteries for the remainder of the fight. Captain Wooding's battery and Carpenter's were retained in their first position, engaging the enemy's batteries so soon as his infantry fell back, while that of Captain Poague was moved down the road along our former front, so soon as we advanced, and opened on the opposing troops of the enemy as the movement continued. The five guns at Sudley's ford, under Lieutenant David Barton of Cutshaw's battery, were also engaged in repelling an attack of the enemy at that point, which they did, supported by a body of cavalry under Major Patrick. In this battle we lost no guns. Captain Brockenbrough had two disabled, one having burst, while the vent-piece of the other was burnt out. One caisson was also exploded. It is impossible to state how many guns were captured; I could never find out; three we got, I know; I saw four or five others on the field, but I do not know whether they belonged to the enemy, or whether they were guns that had been exchanged for them.

On Monday, 1st of September, in the battle of Ox Hill we had no artillery engaged. The character of the ground was such that it could not be brought into action. Several batteries were posted so as to check any success of the enemy, but none became engaged. The enemy had engaged only four guns, two Napoleons and two howitzers.

On the same day, two guns of Rice's battery took position between Chantilly and Centreville, with the second Virginia brigade, under Colonel Bradley T. Johnson. They had a slight engagement with

the enemy, I know; but I was not there, and do not know the particulars. I presume Colonel Johnson's report will show.

I am, Colonel, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

S. CRUTCHFIELD,

*Colonel and Chief of Artillery of Second Corps.*

# REPORT OF COLONEL CRUTCHFEILD OF CAPTURE OF HARPER'S FERRY AND BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY SECOND CORPS, }  
April 16, 1863. }

Lieutenant Colonel C. J. FAULKNER,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the artillery of this army corps in the capture of Harper's Ferry and battle of Sharpsburg, in September, 1862:

On Saturday, September 13, 1862, the command of Lieutenant General Jackson appeared before Harper's Ferry, on the southern side, having approached it from Martinsburg. That day was spent in reconnoissance. On Sunday a cannonade was opened on the enemy from the batteries of Brigadier General John G Walker from Loudoun Heights, and from those of Major General McLaws from Maryland Heights. The enemy were strongly entrenched on Bolivar Heights and just around the house of the former superintendent of the armory. At the latter place, his fire was pretty well silenced late in the day. Towards the close of the afternoon a general advance was made on the place. Major General A. P. Hill's division moved along the west bank of the Shenandoah, that of Major General Ewell, commanded by Brigadier General Lawton, was on the left of General Hill's, while Jackson's division, commanded by Colonel Grigsby, approached on the road from Harper's Ferry to Shepherdstown. The early approach of night prevented any serious engagement. During the night ten guns, from the batteries of Captains Dement, Brown, Garber and Latimer, were moved up the Shenandoah, and, crossing at Kelley's ford, moved down on the other side until opposite the left of the enemy's line of entrenchments. This position, although commanded perfectly by Bolivar Heights, yet secured a fire into the rear of the enemy's works on his left, where he had a work with an embrasure battery of four guns, but open in the rear, and the first point of his works to be encountered by Major General A. P. Hill. This work gained, his other works were untenable. A road having to be cut for these ten guns prevented their opening at daybreak, as General Jackson had ordered. The attack was begun by a battery of eight guns in front, and rather to the right, of this work, from the batteries of Captains Pegram, McIntosh, Davidson and Braxton, of Major General A. P. Hill's division. In a short time the guns of Captains Brown, Garber, Latimer and Dement, being in position, their fire was directed against this work from the rear. Its battery was quickly silenced, the men running from their guns, but returning to them in a short time after the guns directed on the work were brought to bear on the enemy's infantry in his entrenchments. These pieces were therefore again directed on the work, and, in something less than an hour, its fire was completely silenced. Our guns being

again turned on the enemy's infantry, they soon began to fall back from their entrenchments in great confusion, and the white flag was raised over their works.

The captured guns being turned over to the quartermaster for removal, I can make no exact return of the number. We had none disabled, and of course lost none.

On reaching Shepherdstown, late next evening, I met Brigadier General W. N. Pendleton, who desired me to return to Harper's Ferry and endeavor to get together batteries of the captured guns and such ammunition as I could, and send it to Shepherdstown or to the battle-field of Sharpsburg, as our ordnance supplies were getting short and our batteries in an inefficient condition, from hard marching and previous fighting. I therefore returned to Harper's Ferry. After much difficulty I found the quartermaster in charge of the captured guns, and found that he had been busy in removing them, and in so doing had mis-matched the caissons, limbers and guns, to such an extent that, after vainly spending half the day at it, I gave up the task of getting together any batteries from among them. The batteries of Captains Brown, Dement and Latimer had been left at Harper's Ferry as disabled, on account of the condition of their horses. I therefore had horses turned over to them, filled them up with ammunition, exchanged two of Captain Latimer's ten-pounder Parrott's, whose vent pieces had burned out in the action of the day before, for two three-inch rifles of the captured guns, and started them for the battle-field, going on ahead myself. I got there too late in the evening to be able to give any report of the battle. In it, however, we lost no guns. Captain Thompson's (then Captain D'Aquin's) battery captured one ten-pounder Parrott, which they brought off. In recrossing the Potomac, a forge belonging to Captain Crenshaw's battery and a caisson belonging to Captain Brockenbrough's were lost on this side of the river from the sheer exhaustion of the horses, both rolling down a cliff on the side of the road.

I have the honor to remain,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. CRUTCHFIELD,

*Colonel and Chief of Artillery Second Corps.*

# REPORT OF COLONEL S. D. LEE OF SECOND BATTLE OF MANASSAS.

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION LIGHT ARTILLERY,  
Camp near Winchester, October 2, 1862. }

Lieutenant Colonel R. H. CHILTON,  
*Adjutant General, Army Northern Virginia:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the battalion of artillery under my command in the battle of Manassas Plains, August 30th, 1862:

The battalion received orders on the evening of the 29th, near Thoroughfare Gap, to march to the front during the night, and, after a tedious march, encamped, about dawn on the morning of the 30th, on the pike leading from Gainesville to stone bridge, and about two miles from Gainesville. Soon after daylight, I found that our bivouac was on the battle-field of the previous evening and near our advanced division on picket. The enemy showing every disposition to attack us, upon consultation with Brigadier General J. B. Hood, and at his suggestion, I placed my batteries (four) on a commanding ridge immediately to his left and rear. In the general line of battle this ridge was about the centre, Jackson's corps being immediately on my left and Longstreet's on my right. It was an admirable ridge of over a quarter of a mile, generally overlooking the ground in front of it for some two thousand yards. This ground was occupied by several farms, with corn fields, orchards, fences, &c., making it much desired by the enemy for their skirmishers, the ground being quite undulating. Opposite the left of the ridge, and distant about one thousand three hundred yards, was a strip of timber with quite a fall of ground behind it. Between this strip and General Jackson's right (along an old railroad excavation) was an open field.

About seven, A. M., a regiment of the enemy's infantry made its appearance some two thousand yards distant, when a few shots were fired from my long range-guns in position, causing them to move. This fire was responded to by three long-range batteries of the enemy. During the morning, whenever the infantry of the enemy showed itself it was fired on by our guns, which fire always elicited a reply from the artillery opposed to us, doing us but little damage, and resulting in driving the enemy back. About twelve, M., the enemy attempted an advance, driving in our skirmishers in a spirited manner, and occupying the orchard in my front. They soon came within reach of our howitzers, when a few discharges of spherical case drove them back, and our skirmishers resumed their original position.

During the morning the enemy had massed his infantry behind the timber before mentioned, with a view to turn our left, and, about four P. M., moved from out these woods in heavy lines of attack on General Jackson's position. The left of the ridge was held by Eubank's battery of four smooth bores, who opened on the enemy as soon as he

discovered their advance. At the same time I shifted to his assistance with two howitzers of Parker's battery, two of Rhett's battery, and one of Jordan's battery. At the same time, I directed nine other pieces, mostly rifles, on the right of the ridge, under Captains Jordan and Taylor, to change their position so as to fire on the enemy in flank and on the woods containing their reserves. With these eighteen guns, a continuous fire was kept up on the enemy during his attack, which lasted about half an hour.

His reserves moved twice out of the woods to the support of the attacking columns, and twice were they repulsed by the artillery and driven back to the woods. After the reserves failed to reach the front or attacking columns, they were repulsed and endeavored to rally in the open field, but the range of every part of the field was obtained and a few discharges broke them in confusion and sent them back to the woods.

Finding that my batteries were troubling them, they attempted to charge them, three regiments starting for them. They were repulsed, some of their dead being within two hundred yards of the guns.

While firing on the infantry, two batteries of the enemy were firing at us, but generally overshot us.

Our position was an admirable one, and the guns were well served. Two of my batteries were firing for the first time, but did remarkably well. I cannot speak in too high terms of the conduct of officers and men under my command—all behaved well, exhibiting coolness and courage.

I would mention the following officers as having especially attracted my attention by their good conduct, viz: Major Del. Kemper, who had his right arm shattered by a minie ball, Lieutenant and Adjutant W. H. Kemper, Captains J. S. Taylor, Jordan, Parker and Eubank, Lieutenant Elliot, commanding Rhett's battery, Lieutenants Taylor, Gilbert, Brown, Ficklin and Oakum, the latter of Grimes' battery, with two Parrott's attached.

The casualties are as follows:

Major Del. Kemper, wounded in right arm, severely.

Parker's battery—Wounded: Sergeant James Jones, in arm and side, slight; Private David E. Richardson, in thigh, slight.

Rhett's battery—Wounded: Privates M. P. Costello, in leg, slight, and G. T. Jones, in leg, slight; Sergeant Marshall, in leg, slight.

Total wounded, six.

Respectfully submitted,

S. D. LEE,

*Cdt. Artillery, C. S. A., commanding Battalion Light Artillery.*

# REPORT OF COLONEL S. D. LEE OF BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION RESERVE ARTILLERY,  
Camp near Winchester, Oct. 11, 1862. }

Major G. M. SORREL,  
*Assistant Adjutant General Right Wing:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to render the following report of the part taken by the battalion of artillery under my orders in the battle of Sharpsburg:

The battalion crossed the Antietam about eight, A. M., September 15th, and, in obedience to orders from General Longstreet, with the exception of Eubank's battery, took position on the bluffs to the left of the pike, facing the Antietam. Eubank's battery, in compliance with a written order of General Longstreet, held by the adjutant general of Toombs' brigade, was sent to report to General Toombs at the lower bridge, and remained with his brigade until the army recrossed the Potomac. Nothing of interest occurred during the morning. About one, P. M., the infantry of the enemy made its appearance across the creek, and was fired on by my long-range guns, causing them to move back. The enemy soon brought up several long-range batteries, with which they opened upon our guns whenever they fired on their infantry. Nothing resulted from this firing except to make their infantry change position. The guns engaged were two rifle pieces of Parker's battery, two of Rhett's battery, under Lieutenant Elliot, and one of Jordan's battery, under Lieutenant Bower. They were exposed to a hot fire. Several men were slightly wounded and several horses disabled. During the night, the battalion, excepting Moody's battery, shifted further to the left of our line, taking a sheltered position on the Sharpsburg and Hagerstown pike in front of a church, and remained during the day, the enemy making no offensive demonstration until near sundown. Since early in the morning, they appeared engaged in massing their troops opposite our left, and, towards evening, endeavored to get into position to turn our left, bringing on quite a severe skirmish. Two howitzers of Rhett's battery took part in the skirmish; but it soon became too dark to continue the firing.

It was now evident that the enemy would attack us in force on our left at daylight, compelling us to change our line, and give him an opportunity to use his long-range batteries across the Antietam, enfilading our new position. The action commenced about three, A. M., on the morning of the 17th, between the skirmishers. Woolfolk's, Parker's and Rhett's batteries were placed in position in front of the church on the right of the Sharpsburg and Hagerstown pike, and opened on the enemy at daylight. These batteries were compelled to fire over our infantry, but fired with effect. A continuous fire was kept up until about quarter past eight, A. M., when

the enemy gave way, and our firing ceased as our infantry followed in pursuit.

The batteries above mentioned, while engaged, were exposed to an enfilade fire of about twenty rifle guns from across the Antietam, two batteries in their front, and the fire of the infantry of the enemy, most of the time about five hundred yards distant. They suffered very heavily, and had exhausted most of their ammunition. I should have mentioned that two guns of Jordan's battery, under Lieutenant Bower, were sent to an advanced position under Captain John S Taylor, but had to retire, owing to their exposed position and the fire of several batteries against them. About this time I ordered Rhett's battery to the rear for ammunition, and Parker's and Woolfolk's batteries to move slightly to the rear to refit—many horses and men being killed. They could only move the pieces off by leaving portions of the caissons, so many of the horses had been disabled. About this time, (nine, A. M.,) Moody's battery, which had been engaged near the centre of our line, arrived and reported, and I placed it in position on the ground previously occupied by Parker's battery.

General Hood's division, which followed the enemy when he gave way, not being supported, was compelled to fall back before their overwhelming numbers—the enemy having gained his rear and occupying a position almost between his retiring troops and Moody's battery. His troops fell back so suddenly, and were so near to the enemy, that it was impossible to use the battery. This being the ease, I advanced two guns of Moody's battery some three hundred yards into a ploughed field, where I could use them. They remained in this position, and did good service for about fifteen minutes, under Captain Moody and Lieutenant Gary. This section was exposed to a most galling infantry fire, and retained its position till the infantry on its right and left retired, when I ordered it to the rear. The gallant Lieutenant Gary was killed, being shot in the head by a minie ball as he was sighting his piece for its last discharge. The section with which he was serving was not his own, but, seeing it going to an exposed position, asked permission to accompany it. A more gallant officer was not in our service.

Our troops having to fall back rapidly, my guns were, by direction of General D. H. Hill, retired to the ridge of hills across the Sharpsburg and Hagerstown turnpike, and between the church and Sharpsburg, and fired for a short time. General McLaws' division arriving at this time and going into action, I moved the battalion about a mile from the field to refit. It was now about ten, A. M. About three, P. M., the batteries having refitted and replenished with ammunition, I again moved to the front with twelve guns—all that could be manned—and received orders from one of General Longstreet's aids to take position in front of the village of Sharpsburg, to the right and left of the turnpike, relieving Colonel Walton, of the Washington Artillery of New Orleans. Four of Moody's guns were placed on the right of the village; two of Parker's and two of Jordan's were placed on the left; Rhett's two pieces were placed on a ridge to the left of the village, on the Sharpsburg and Hagerstown pike. These guns,

in their respective positions, did good service. Those in front of the village were exposed to a heavy fire of artillery and infantry—the sharpshooters of the enemy being within two hundred yards of them during the entire evening. The guns of Moody's battery, in connection with Squiers' battery of the Washington Artillery of New Orleans, repelled some six or eight attempts of the infantry of the enemy to take our position. At one time their infantry was within one hundred and fifty yards of our batteries, when, by a charge of our supporting infantry, they were driven back. Two guns of Moody's battery, with Garnett's brigade, drove the enemy from the ridge to the left of the village, after they had taken the ridge from our troops. The guns retained their position in front of the village till our troops were driven into the village on the right, when, by direction of General Garnett, they withdrew. The enemy were afterwards repulsed from the village, and the hill, for a short time, was reoccupied by Captain Thomas Carter's battery. It was now near dark, and the hill was held but by a few infantry.

Captain Eubank's battery not being with me, I am not prepared to speak, from personal observation, of his action, but General Toombs informed me that he and his company did good and gallant service.

The officers and men of my battalion behaved with the utmost gallantry. During the entire time engaged they were exposed to a heavy fire from the enemy, as is shown by the list of casualties enclosed. Out of about three hundred men who went into action, eighty-six casualties occurred, and sixty horses were disabled.

In the morning the battalion was engaged during the severe fight, before our reinforcements came up on the left, and was the only artillery engaged with General Hood's division. In the evening it was engaged in front of the village, and on the right when the fight was the heaviest.

I regret to state that Captain Woolfolk's battery lost a gun on the field. It was on the left in the morning when our lines gave way before the overwhelming numbers of the enemy. The four horses, two drivers and four cannoneers at the piece were disabled, and it was with difficulty that the battery could be moved. I do not attach any blame to the captain. The piece could not be recovered, owing to the proximity of the enemy, though several attempts were made.

Captain John S. Taylor, C. S. Artillery, temporarily attached to my staff, was killed in the morning while gallantly discharging his duties. He was entirely fearless, and always sought the post of danger; and his example did much towards inspiring his daring in all around him. Though generally all behaved well, I will particularly mention the following as having attracted my attention by distinguished gallantry: Captains J. V. Moody, Parker and Woolfolk; Lieutenant Elliot, commanding Rhett's battery; Lieutenants Gilbert and Fickling, Rhett's battery; Lieutenant Parkenson, Parker's battery, severely wounded in the leg; Lieutenant Sillers, Moody's battery; Sergeants Conroy and Price, and Corporals Gaulin and Donoho, Moody's battery. I would also mention Lieutenant Maddox, of Colonel Cutts' battalion of artillery, who had two guns under

my command, and behaved with great gallantry. My adjutant, Lieutenant W. H. Kemper, Alexandria Artillery, was of great assistance to me, and exhibited gallantry and coolness in an eminent degree.

Enclosed is a list of casualties.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STEPHEN D. LEE,

*Colonel of Artillery C. S. A., commanding Battalion.*

## SIGNAL REPORTS—REPORT OF J. L. BARTLETT.

[HARPER'S FERRY, No. 1.]

SUNDAY, September 14, 1862.

My signal flag was up at daylight, and my glass bearing on Loudoun Heights.

After sunrise, Major Paxton sent the following:

"Artillery coming up road to be repaired." Before delivering this message I asked, "what artillery and what road?" Major Paxton answered, "Walker's, and up mountains." About ten, A. M., comes another despatch from Loudoun Heights. "Walker has his six rifle pieces in position; shall he wait for McLaws?" General Jackson answers, "Wait." General Jackson and Colonel Snead then come to signal station, and the General dictates the following:

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[HARPER'S FERRY, No. 2.]

SUNDAY, September 14, 1862.

To Generals McLaws and Walker:

If you can, establish batteries to drive the enemy from the hill west of Bolivar, and on which Barbour's house is, and any other position where he may be damaged by your artillery, and let me know when you are ready to open your batteries, and give me any suggestions by which you can operate against the enemy; cut the telegraph line down the Potomac, if it is not already done; keep a good lookout against a Federal advance from below; similar instructions will be sent to General Walker. I do not desire any of the batteries to open until all are ready on both sides of the river, except you should find it necessary, of which you must judge for yourself. I will let you know when to open all the batteries.

T. J. JACKSON,  
*Major General commanding.*

*Addendum.—If you have not rations, take steps at once to supply yourself; have beef driven to your command so, that you may have enough.*

General JACKSON.

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[HARPER'S FERRY, No. 3.]

General Jackson and staff then go to the left. I receive, soon after, the following: "General McLaws informs me that the enemy are in

his rear, and that he can do but little more than he has done. I am now ready to open.

(Signed,)

"General WALKER."

There being no courier at the post, I carried this message to the General, and find him in front on the left. He gives me an answer, and sends Lieutenant Douglas back to signal station with me.

"To General WALKER :

"Do not open until General McLaws notifies me what he can probably effect. Let me known what you can effect with your command upon the enemy.

(Signed,)

"General JACKSON."

"To General McLaws :

"Let me know what you can probably effect with your artillery, and also with your entire command. Notify General D. H. Hill, at Middleburg, of the enemy's position, and request him to protect your rear. Send the same message to General Lee, near Hagerstown.

(Signed,)

"General JACKSON."

The message next in order comes from Loudoun Heights to General Jackson. "Walker can't get position to bear on island."

No signature, (probably from Major Paxton.)

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[HARPER'S FERRY, No. 4.]

From General WALKER to General JACKSON :

"I am informed that the enemy are advancing by Perceyville, and have possession of the passes from the Valley.

(Signed,)

"General WALKER."

"To Generals WALKER AND McLAWS :

"Fire at such positions of the enemy as will be most effective.

(Signed,)

"General JACKSON."

Our artillery opens from this side, (in front of Bolivar.) Walker opens from Loudoun Heights. Yankees are seen coming down on west side of Bolivar to escape Walker's fire, but meet an equal one from our artillery on the left of our line.

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[HARPER'S FERRY, No. 5.]

HEADQ'R'S VALLEY DISTRICT, Sept. 14, 1862.

SPECIAL ORDER, }  
No. — }

I. To-day Major General McLaws will attack so as to sweep with

his artillery the ground occupied by the enemy, take his batteries in reverse and otherwise operate against him as circumstances may justify.

II. Brigadier General Walker will take in reverse the battery on the turnpike, and also sweep with his artillery the ground occupied by the enemy, and silence the battery on the island in the Shenandoah, should he find a battery there.

III. Major General A. P. Hill will move along the left bank of the Shenandoah, and thus turn the enemy's left flank, and enter Harper's Ferry.

IV. Brigadier General Lawton will move along the turnpike for the purpose of supporting General Hill, and otherwise operating against the enemy on the left of General Hill.

V. Brigadier General Jones will, with one of his brigades and a battery of artillery, make a demonstration against the enemy's right; the remaining part of his division will constitute the reserve, and move along the turnpike.

By order of Major General Jackson.

WILLIAM L. JACKSON,  
A. A. A. General.

[No. 6.]

If any other dispatches or orders were sent at Harper's Ferry, it was done at other posts than mine. Messages were doubtless sent from Loudoun Heights to Maryland Heights, between Generals McLaws and Walker.

Captain Adams, who was the only commissioned signal officer there, has doubtless full reports of those and all the messages and orders; it being his duty to keep them. I suggest that he be applied to for them.

J. L. BARTLETT.

After the surrender of Harper's Ferry, I was ordered by Major Paxton to remove my station to Barbour's house. I did so, after notifying Captain Adams' post on Loudoun Heights of the move, telling them to look out for my flag at that point. After locating my station at that place, however, and waving my flag for several hours, I could not get "attention" from Loudoun Heights to send a message, sent to me by Major Paxton, for General Walker to prepare rations and be ready to march. I afterwards learned that the post had been evacuated at that time. Thus ended the signal service at Harper's Ferry.

J. L. B.

[No. 7.]

MANASSAS BATTLE GROUND,  
Saturday, August 30, 1862. }

P. M. I signal from General Lee's headquarters, on the Warren-

ton pike, to General Jackson's position, across the pike, near some wheat-stacks, bearing nearly north, distant about two miles, as follows:

"To General JACKSON:

"What is result of movement on your left.

(Signed,) \_\_\_\_\_

"General LEE."

[ANSWER.]

"To General LEE:

"So far enemy appear to be trying to get possession of a piece of woods to withdraw out of our sight.

(Signed,) \_\_\_\_\_

"General JACKSON."

Terrific fighting now commences on the left, and General Jackson sends for a division of Longstreet's command.

"To General JACKSON:

"Do you still want reinforcements.

(Signed,) \_\_\_\_\_

"General LEE."

Some half hour elapses, and General Jackson replies:

"No, the enemy are giving way.

(Signed,) \_\_\_\_\_

"General JACKSON."

General Lee now prepares to move, and sends the following to General Jackson: "General Longstreet is advancing; look out for and protect his left flank.

(Signed,) \_\_\_\_\_

"General LEE."

General Lee having moved his headquarters, I also removed the signal station.

J. L. BARTLETT.

## REPORT OF CAPTAIN J. K. BOSWELL.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, February 12, 1863.

Colonel C. J. FAULKNER,

*Chief of Staff to Lieut. General Jackson:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report, that on the evening of the 13th August, 1862, having just returned from Clarke's Mountain, a very elevated point, three miles east of Rapidan Station, I reported to Major General Jackson the following as being the position of the enemy's forces on the opposite side of the Rapidan. The main body encamped around the slopes of Garnett's and Slaughter's Mountains; one division one mile north of Culpeper Court-House, on the Brandy Station road, and a small force between Mitchell's Station and Lime church. General Jackson then directed me to examine and, on the following day, to report to him the most desirable route for passing around the enemy's flank and reaching Warrenton, Fauquier. I advised that the corps should march from its encampment just west of Toddensburg, through Orange Court-House, thence down the Fredericksburg plank road to Dr. Terrill's, then turn to the left, pass Pisgah church, and cross the Rapidan at Summerville's ford, thence by Lime church, Stephensburg, Brandy Station and Beverley's ford, to Warrenton. This route being approved, the march was commenced on the evening of the 15th, and on the 16th the three divisions of Taliaferro, Ewell and A. P. Hill encamped near Pisgah church, where they remained for three days, awaiting the arrival of a portion of General Longstreet's command, till the morning of the 20th.

On the morning of the 18th, a body of the enemy drove our pickets from Clarke's Mountain and found out the position of our troops; and, on the 19th, they commenced their retreat towards the Rappahannock. I was on Clarke's Mountain at the time that the retreat commenced, and immediately gave the information to General Jackson.

At dawn on the following morning, (20th,) the corps moved forward in the following order, Generals A. P. Hill, Ewell and Taliaferro. I was ordered by General Jackson to remain at Summerville's ford, where the corps crossed the Rapidan, till all the divisions had crossed, to see that there was no delay in fording the stream. This being accomplished, I rejoined General Jackson about two miles beyond Stephensburg, on the Brandy Station road, where the corps bivouacked for the night. I here found that General Stuart, with Robertson's brigade of cavalry, had engaged the cavalry of the retreating enemy near Stephensburg and driven them across the Rappahannock at the railroad bridge.

Early on the morning of the 21st, the command resumed its march in the following order: Taliaferro, A. P. Hill and Ewell. Passing Brandy Station, the front of Taliaferro's division emerged from the wood a quarter of a mile south of Beverley's ford about ten, A. M. Finding the ford guarded by a body of the enemy's cavalry, General

Taliaferro brought up two pieces of Poague's battery and drove them off; General Stuart then crossed the run with the first Virginia cavalry and two pieces of Poague's battery, but the enemy advanced a heavy force and compelled them to retire. A desultory artillery fight was kept up during the entire day between the batteries of General Taliaferro and those of the enemy on the opposite side of the river. I was ordered by General Jackson to take a position on the right, from which I could see Rappahannock Station, and to report to him any movement on the part of the enemy. I stationed myself on a high point a little to the right of the railroad, and about three-quarters of a mile from the river. From this point I could see that the enemy were in heavy force around Rappahannock Station, and that a small body of infantry occupied two very high bluffs on the south side of the river, and a few hundred yards above the railroad bridge. I communicated these facts to General Jackson, and suggested that the enemy might be driven from those bluffs, though they were somewhat higher than any point on either side of the river, by placing a large amount of artillery on the ridge east of Glassell's house and on the hill which I then occupied. Colonel Crutchfield was sent by General Jackson to examine the position with me, but we did not meet until it was so late that nothing could be done.

On the following morning, (22d), the three divisions, in order, Ewell, Hill and Taliaferro, left their encampment near Beverley's ford, marching by farm roads and across fields to Welford's mill, where they crossed Eastham river, thence to Freeman's ford, but finding this ford strongly guarded by the enemy, General Trimble's brigade was left to prevent a crossing, and the remainder of the troops moved across the country, keeping as much as possible under cover, to Dr. M. P. Scott's farm, just opposite Lee's Springs. General Early's brigade and a portion of Lawton's brigade were advanced across the Rappahannock, and took position respectively on the Foxville and Warrenton roads. Heavy musketry, during the evening, announced that the enemy had crossed the river and attacked General Trimble, but later it was found that he had driven them back. A very heavy fall of rain during the night raised the Rappahannock so much as to render it entirely impassable, the bridge having been destroyed by the enemy in their retreat.

Early on the morning of the 23d, Lieutenants C. R. Howard and H. T. Rogers, engineers on General Hill's staff, commenced to build a temporary bridge for the passage of General Early's troops. About eleven, A. M., General Jackson, fearing lest the enemy might advance a heavy force against General Early before the bridge could be finished, ordered me to point out to General Early's assistant adjutant general, Major Hall, a road by which the brigade might be moved to Waterloo in case it should be forced back. This was done, and on my return to the Springs, a little before sunset, I found the bridge completed and General Early engaged in an artillery fight with the enemy, advancing on the Foxville road; they were driven back, and during the night General Early recrossed into Culpeper. A fierce cannonade was kept up during the entire day of the 24th between our

batteries, on the hills near Dr. Scott's, and those of the enemy, on the opposite side of the river. About three, P. M., I received an order from General Jackson to report immediately to him at Jeffersonton, which being done, he directed me to select the most direct and covered route to Manassas. I recommended that by Amissville, Hinson's mill, Orlean, Salem, Thoroughfare and Gainesville, which he approved, and directed me to select guides, which I did from Captain Adams' company, sixth Virginia cavalry, and to direct the front division, in person, at dawn on the following morning. Finding General Ewell's division the most advanced, I conducted it through Amissville and crossed the Rappahannock at Hinson's mill. Soon after crossing the river, I was ordered by General Jackson to take a portion of the Black Horse cavalry, Captain Randolph, and Captain Tebbs' company second Virginia cavalry, and advance to Salem, which place I reached, via Orleans and Hume Run church, about four, P. M., without encountering any portion of the enemy's forces. Later in the evening, Colonel Munford came up, with the second Virginia cavalry, and we spent the night in the town, the advance of the infantry encamping a mile south of the town.

Early on the morning of the 26th, General Ewell moved forward, followed by A. P. Hill and Taliaferro, passing through The Plains and Thoroughfare Gap, to Gainesville. Here, leaving the Manassas road and moving to the right, the advance came in sight of Bristoe Station, Orange and Alexandria railroad, about sunset, just after one of the enemy's trains of cars passed the station. Advancing suddenly, the Louisiana brigade captured a number of prisoners, acting as depot and bridge guard. In a few minutes another train came in sight, moving in the direction of Alexandria. It was fired upon by the Louisiana brigade, and an attempt made to stop it, but without effect. A third train soon came in sight and was fired upon; the track, a short distance beyond the depot had been previously removed, and the train, consisting of an engine with about twenty empty cars, was thrown down a high embankment and very much broken. A fifth train shared the same fate. Still another came in sight, but returned in the direction of Warrenton. General Jackson directed me to move the engines and cars across Broad Run bridge, in the direction of Manassas Junction, but I reported, after examination, that the engine and cars were so broken that it would be impossible to move them; he then ordered me to destroy the bridge over Broad Run, and, at day-break on the following morning, to fire the cars and engines, which was done. During the night, General Stuart, with a portion of his cavalry and General Trimble's brigade of Ewell's division, took possession of Manassas Junction, and early on the following morning, 27th, General Taliaferro and General A. P. Hill's divisions joined them at that point. General Ewell, with Taylor's, Lawton's and Early's brigades, remained at Bristoe. After completing the destruction of the trains and bridge, in which I was assisted by Captain C. R. Howard and Lieutenant H. T. Rogers, of General A. P. Hill's staff, I joined General Jackson just in time to see the rear of the enemy's retreating column. During the evening, General Ewell had a brisk en-

gagement with the advance of Pope's army, moving from Warrenton in the direction of Alexandria; he fell back to Manassas Junction at sunset.

During the night the entire command marched in the direction of Sudley Mills, and bivouacked between Cartharpin creek and Sudley Mills, one mile north of Groveton. On the following day, I was taken sick and sent to the rear, and did not rejoin the command till the 19th September.

Enclosed you will find a map of the region from Orange Court-House to Sudley Mills, with the route of the corps designated by a heavy black line.

I am, Colonel, most respectfully,

J. K. BOSWELL,

*Captain and Chief Engineer 2d Army Corps.*

# REPORT OF CAPTAIN BROWN OF BATTLE OF SLAUGHTER'S GAP.

HEADQUARTERS NINETEENTH VIRGINIA REGIMENT, }  
October 15, 1862. }

On Sunday, the 14th of September, the nineteenth Virginia regiment, numbering one hundred and fifty men, after marching from Hagerstown, Maryland, to Boonsboro', was ordered to load and prepare for action. The sun was nearly setting behind the western hills when the regiment was formed in line of battle, on the top of a hill, with an open space in front, where the enemy lay, concealed behind a stone fence, at the distance of fifteen paces. A murderous fire was at once opened upon the regiment by the concealed foe, which was manfully replied to by the nineteenth for more than an hour, when the ranks were thinned to such an extent as to prove a withdrawal absolutely necessary. One-third of the men were rendered unable to fight, and a precipitous retreat from the hill was ordered. In this engagement Colonel J. B. Strange fell, seriously wounded, and, in the retreat, was left behind. His voice was heard after he had received his wound urging his men to stand firmly, and he commanded with that coolness and daring that is found only in the truly brave. In addition to this severe loss, the regiment mourns the death of Lieutenant M. A. Shepherd, of company B, than whom a truer patriot, a firmer officer, or a nobler youth, is not to be found in our country's service. The list of casualties shows the number of the brave ever to be lamented by the friends of the nineteenth. The command fell upon Captain John L. Cochran, after the fall of Colonel Strange. Total loss, sixty-three. Names have been heretofore furnished.

B. BROWN,  
*Captain commanding Regiment.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR FROBEL OF SECOND BATTLE OF MANASSAS.

CAMP NEAR FREDERICK, MARYLAND, }  
September 9, 1862. }

Captain W. H. SELLERS,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the participation of the batteries under my command in the battles of Friday and Saturday, August 29th and 30th:

At eleven, A. M., on Friday, I was ordered by General Hood to proceed to the right of the turnpike road and report to General Stuart. This I did, with Captain Bachman's battery, Reilly being already in position on the left, and Garden having no long-range pieces. General Stuart had selected a position near the Alexandria and Orange railroad. The battery was brought up, and immediately opened with marked effect on a column of the enemy moving to the right, which at once changed direction, moving rapidly to the left. Fifteen rounds were fired, when, the distance being greatly increased, I ordered Captain Bachman to cease firing. At one, P. M., Captain Reilly was ordered to the left of the turnpike, and to take position with other batteries on a hill commanding the hills near Groveton house, where the enemy had several batteries strongly posted. Immediately afterwards, I proceeded with Captain Bachman's battery to the same position, (Captain Garden's being considered of too short range to be effective there.) The position assigned us was on the extreme left, both batteries passing through a heavy fire in reaching it. After being hotly engaged for two hours and-a-half, and firing about one hundred rounds, the enemy ceased firing and withdrew his guns. We were then ordered to return to the road, for the purpose of replenishing our ammunition. At three, P. M., on Saturday, I was ordered by General Longstreet to proceed down the turnpike with all the batteries and take position on the left of the road, opening fire on the enemy's batteries posted in an orchard near Dogan's house. Immediately after, I was ordered to change position to the right of the road and advance, which was done. Captain Reilly taking position on the hill in front of Groveton house, engaging the batteries immediately in front, under a terrific fire, while Bachman's battery advanced still further, passing through the woods to the right, and assisted by the howitzer section of Reilly's battery, under command of Lieutenant Myers, opened on the flank. In changing position, Captain Bachman had one of his rifle guns disabled. Both batteries were handled with great skill and effect, and the fire of the enemy soon silenced. It being near dark, and the ammunition exhausted, Reilly and Bachman were ordered to withdraw. In the meantime, I was ordered by General Longstreet to advance Captain Garden's battery in the field on the left of the road. This was done, and a flank-

ing fire opened on the batteries near Dogan's house. We were soon, however, ordered to cease, as Colonel Law's brigade was advancing in the opposite direction on the same point; the Federals, at the same time, manifesting great energy in the rapidity of their movement down the turnpike and Sudley ford road. Captain Garden, with two other batteries, continued to pursue until the Sudley road was reached, when, not being able to distinguish friend from foe in the darkness, the battery was finally withdrawn.

Of the conduct of officers and men in both engagements I cannot speak in terms too high. Captains Bachman and Garden handled their batteries with great skill, while Reilly sustained his old and well merited reputation. Lieutenant Sirgling, a gallant young officer, attached to Bachman's battery, fell, seriously (supposed to be mortally) wounded, at his guns, setting an example of cool bravery not often equalled. Enclosed you will find a list of the killed and wounded.

I am, Captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. W. FROBEL,

*Major and Chief of Artillery, commanding.*

# REPORT OF MAJOR FROBEL OF BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG.

OCTOBER 1, 1862.

Captain W. H. SELLERS, A. A. G.:

CAPTAIN: In compliance with orders to report the participation of the batteries under my command in the recent engagements before Sharpsburg, I would respectfully submit the following:

After bringing up the rear on the march from Boonsboro', Captains Reilly and Bachman's batteries were placed in position by Colonel Walton about noon on Monday, the 15th September, on a hill to the right of the turnpike road and a short distance in front of Sharpsburg; Garden's battery being held in reserve, in case the enemy should attempt an advance by a bridge over the Antietam, still further to the right. We held these positions on Monday night.

On Tuesday, a fierce cannonade was kept up between our batteries and those of the enemy, in which Captain Reilly was ordered by Colonel Walton to participate until his rifle ammunition was exhausted, but without any perceptible result. Bachman's battery was, at the same time, exposed to a heavy fire, but had orders not to reply. Tuesday night we occupied the same positions.

On Wednesday morning the battle was again renewed. Captain Reilly was sent to the rear to replenish, if possible, his exhausted ammunition. At eight o'clock, A. M., Captain Bachman, with a section of Napoleon guns, was ordered to proceed to the extreme left of our line and report to General Longstreet. Shortly after, he was placed in position in a corn-field, and opened on the enemy at a distance of one hundred and fifty yards. The position was exposed to the fire of the enemy's sharpshooters, who occupied a wood not more than fifty yards off. In a few minutes, the section lost three men wounded, two mortally, and six horses killed. Finding that to continue longer would involve the loss of his guns, Captain Bachman withdrew to a hill near by and reported the section disabled, on account of the loss of men and horses. I ordered him to retire, for the purpose of repairing damages. In the meantime, his rifle section was hotly engaged near the turnpike. This section was in charge of Sergeant Schlemmermeyer, who fought his guns most gallantly, and remained in position until all his ammunition was expended.

At two o'clock, P. M., I received orders from Major General Jones to prepare to hold the road leading from the bridge over the Antietam, on our extreme right. A few minutes after, the enemy were reported advancing, the infantry near the bridge at the same time giving way. I immediately placed Garden's battery in position on the left of the road. The enemy had crossed the bridge and were advancing rapidly, under cover of a furious fire from all their batteries, concentrated upon us, when Garden's battery opened a most destructive fire upon them and, assisted by a rifle section under Cap-

tain Squiers, soon drove them back. Fearing they might yet turn us by passing still further to the right, I directed Captain Garden to look well to the road and woods in front of him, while I proceeded to the right in search of General Jones. On arriving at the top of the hill to the right of the road, the enemy were seen advancing, in strong force, in that direction. By permission of General Jones, I placed Captain Brown's battery in position at this point. The enemy were distant about four hundred yards, when he opened a hot and well directed fire upon them, breaking their ranks and driving them back to the cover of a hill from which they had just advanced.

At this time, large bodies of the enemy (infantry and artillery) were moving on the opposite side of the river. When near the bridge, they halted some ten or fifteen minutes. I immediately sent to Captain Reilly to come up, as the guns then in position were all short-range and could not reach them on the bridge. Being without ammunition, only his howitzer section was available. I at once placed it in position. The enemy had, in the meantime, advanced some eight or ten guns across the river and placed them in front of us. Under fire of these, assisted by all their long-range batteries on the opposite bank, their line advanced. Their sharpshooters at the same time opened a hot fire on us from a corn-field on our right, a stone fence in front, and a wood and orchard near by. Our batteries immediately replied, and continued their fire until the line was broken and the enemy recoiled.

At this time the enemy were distant less than one hundred yards. Our ammunition was exhausted. One of Captain Garden's guns was dismounted, the carriage being entirely destroyed; another rendered utterly useless by the bursting of a shell, while from one of Captain Reilly's pieces all the horses had been killed. But three guns remained fit for service, and they were without ammunition. Having run the pieces to the rear by hand and secured our disabled guns, the enemy all the time advancing and firing upon us, I ordered the batteries to retire.

In passing to the turnpike, Lieutenant Ramsay, in command of the rifle section of Captain Reilly's battery, came up to our support. At that time the enemy occupied the position we had just left, and were advancing in line. I ordered Lieutenant Ramsay to take position in the field to the right of the road and open, which he did, soon breaking their line and throwing them into great confusion. At this time General A. P. Hill came up, and, charging, drove them from the field.

I regret to report that first Lieutenant Pringle, of Garden's battery, after fighting his guns most gallantly, fell, late in the day, mortally wounded, and has since died.

I cannot too highly applaud the conduct of both officers and men. Captains Bachman and Reilly fought their batteries with their usual determination and devotion to the cause. Captain Garden, Lieutenants Simmons, Myers, Ramsay, and Sergeant Schlemmermeyer deserve particular notice for their gallant conduct during the battle, and also Assistant Surgeon Buist for his attention to the sick. Act-

ing Adjutant W. L. Scott rendered me great assistance, and is entitled to my warmest thanks.

Enclosed you will find a list of killed and wounded.

I am, Captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. W. FROBEL,

*Major and Chief of Artillery, commanding.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL BAKER.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST NORTH CAROLINA CAVALRY, {  
August 9, 1862. }

Captain BARKER,

*Assistant Adjutant General First Brigade:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the enemy advanced to the Gatewood field about nine o'clock, P. M., on the 4th instant, and there halted during the night. A courier was despatched to Lieutenant Colonel Young and to me, at that time, saying that the enemy was coming up in large force—artillery, infantry and cavalry. I immediately marched down with my regiment and soon satisfied myself that the report forwarded to me was correct. Another courier was immediately forwarded by me, about half past ten o'clock, to Lieutenant Colonel Young to make the same report as at first, and to state that I thought they would go by the Quaker road to Malvern Hill in the morning, and that he must be on the alert and forward the report to General Hampton. I also despatched an officer to General Ripley, informing him, as he had directed me to call on him for assistance whenever necessary. The officer says he reached the General's headquarters at a quarter to four, A. M. The General wrote to me immediately, authorizing me to order up a section of artillery and two infantry regiments on picket duty about four or five miles in my rear, and, if this was not enough, to send for the brigade that was out working. I sent an order, at six, A. M., for the two regiments of infantry and section of artillery to come up, but no answer was sent, and they did not come up. I was constantly expecting them until the arrival of General Ripley, about eleven o'clock, A. M. No explanation has been given for the failure of the artillery and infantry to come to my assistance when ordered to do so. At daylight, the enemy advanced by the Nelson house and down the Quaker road to Malvern Hill. I sent another officer, at once, to General Ripley to announce that intelligence. General Hampton came over to my assistance between seven and eight o'clock, A. M., with the intention of following them, until I reported their force, and also that they were in force in front and already at Malvern Hill. Captain Cheek made admirable disposition of his squadron on picket to get information, and the men performed the duty with judgment and bravery, keeping their position as videttes as long as it was possible, so as to estimate their force. Lieutenant Iredell, after remaining, with a few men as videttes until the enemy was in a few yards of him, fired and fell slowly back, killing, as I have since learned, two men and wounding several. The enemy endeavored to advance his pickets to cover his march, but I dismounted Captain Siler's company as skirmishers, and, after a few moments of spirited firing, the enemy fell back, and I obtained position to ascertain his force again. Captain Siler's officers and men behaved very gallantly.

On the 5th and 6th, thirty-three prisoners were captured by Captains Barringer's and Houston's squadrons. I lost seven men (four of Captain Cheek's and three of Captain Wood's companies)—a post near Malvern Hill, who had orders to report any advance of the enemy to Lieutenant Colonel Young's pickets. They remained too long and were unable to make their way to him. One of my men came up to me late in the day stating this fact. I also lost, on the 6th, one man prisoner from Captain Ruffin's company, and had one badly wounded from Captain Houston's company.

I am, sir, with much respect,

L. S. BAKER,  
*Colonel First North Carolina Cavalry.*

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL YOUNG.

NEW MARKET CHURCH, August 3, 1862.

Lieutenant HAMILTON,

A. and A. A. General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that the first courier reported to me at a quarter past twelve o'clock, A. M., August 5th. He was sent by Lieutenant Early, who commanded my squadron on picket at Malvern Hill. This courier reported that the enemy were advancing, with a large force of cavalry and some artillery, upon the left flank of the North Carolina cavalry pickets. I immediately directed my adjutant to write a note to General Hampton and inform him of the state of affairs, which he did. I ordered the courier to return, and directed Lieutenant Early to send out a scouting party. Lieutenant Early obeyed the order. The scouting party discovered nothing in their front, and no demonstration was made at this time or afterwards in our front, as the enemy advanced from the direction of the North Carolina pickets. The second courier reported to me between the hours of two and three o'clock. This courier reported from Lieutenant Early that he had been informed, by a courier from the North Carolina pickets, that the enemy were still advancing, in strong force, upon the North Carolina pickets; that they could distinctly hear the sound of the bugles and moving of artillery. This courier was sent to General Hampton to report the intelligence to him. About break of day a courier from the North Carolina pickets reported to me that the enemy were still advancing, but that his (the North Carolina) pickets *had not been driven from their posts*. He reported that Colonel Baker's or my position would be attacked by morning. This courier was also sent to General Hampton. At half past five o'clock, A. M., another courier reported to me from Lieut. Early. This man reported that a battery of artillery had opened upon our reserve picket and our battery of artillery, (which was at Malvern house,) entirely from their rear. The enemy's battery was playing from a hill near Crew's house—the battery was supported by about four hundred cavalry. The courier reported that he had come for support, and that unless our people on the hill should very soon get help they must certainly be lost. This courier was sent to General Hampton. In a few moments after this time, I received an order from General Hampton directing me to leave one squadron at my camp and form the other two squadrons in the field, which was preparatory to moving to the support of Colonel Baker. I received no information after this from Malvern Hill. It is due to Lieutenant Early to say that he kept up his picket lines during the heavy artillery fire from his rear, nor did he abandon them until ordered by Major Pickett, of the seventeenth Georgia, to do so. During this movement upon Malvern Hill, not a single man of the enemy appeared in front of my pickets. The enemy, to their surprise, were firing from their rear before they were

aware of their proximity, and I must say that, in my opinion, the officers of the infantry, artillery and cavalry deserve praise for the manner in which they withdrew their troops from the field when they believed it vain to hope longer for support. I have to report my loss as follows: Two men captured from Lieutenant Early's squadron, and two supposed to be killed.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

P. M. B. YOUNG,

*Lieutenant Colonel commanding Georgia Legion Cavalry.*

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL MAGRUDER.

Brigadier General WADE HAMPTON:

SIR: I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report as to the operations of the enemy in front of our lines on Tuesday last, 5th instant:

At one o'clock, A. M., I received a verbal message from Colonel Baker, through his courier, to this effect: that the enemy had driven in his pickets the evening before to Riddell's shop, and that there were no pickets left between Riddell's shop and my reserve; he further stated the enemy was in large force, composed of artillery, cavalry and infantry. From the withdrawal of Colonel Baker's pickets on my right, thereby preventing any communication, on the Charles City road, between Colonel Baker's and mine, besides exposing my right entirely to approach of the enemy in case Colonel B. should fall back, of which I could have had no information in time. I immediately, upon reception of the above information, ordered Captain W. B. Clement, commanding the picket post, to draw in his pickets on the left to the junction of the Long Bridge with the Charles City (sometimes called Quaker) road, also to picket what is called the Turner road, a cross road leading from Long Bridge road to White Oak Swamp bridge, and to extend his line on Charles City further to my right, to guard against surprise in that direction, to be so picketed as regularly to communicate one with another, thus, in the speediest possible time, giving information to the reserve, which was at the bridge, a short distance this side, so as to be under cover of the woods, it not being practicable on the opposite side. Between nine and ten, upon my return from visiting a portion of my picket lines, I suggested to Captain Clement the propriety of loosening a few of the poles on the bridge, so that in case of an advance of cavalry, at shortest possible notice, to tear up a portion of the bridge, so as to check and throw in confusion the advance column, whilst the men in ambush would open upon them. All of the orders, according to Captain Clement's report, seem to have been obeyed, as the following report, furnished by Captain C., will show. The orderly sergeant, with nine men, superintended by Captain C., dismounted to loosen the logs of the bridge; they had barely commenced before pickets reported the enemy advancing upon Turner and Dr. Perman's road. Captain C. ordered courier to return and watch movements, and stated he would be with him in a moment. Before getting on his horse, (some fifty yards distant, when receiving the above information,) Captain C. heard firing, accompanied with a yell, and saw the pickets flying from the hill, closely pursued by the enemy's cavalry. This body of cavalry approached under cover of the woods, leaving the road and hugging closely to the swamp until within a short distance of the bridge. The pickets were watching the advance of another body of the enemy, and came very near being cut off from the bridge, before seeing the approach of the second body. Captain Clement

attempted to check the column by ordering his men forward and meeting them, but soon saw the impracticability of this move, as the enemy was nearer the bridge than he; the men were drawn up by the side of the road and ordered to reserve their fire until the head of the column approached very near, hoping thereby to check the column and give time to the men on foot to mount. The men stood firm amidst the fire of the enemy, and did not fire until ordered, which was not given until they were in fifteen yards of the picket. Unfortunately most of our guns failed fire, from having been exposed twenty-four hours on picket duty, as well as caps being indifferent. Captain C. ordered his men to fall back through the swamp, it being the only mode of escape. Captain C.'s and Caskie's companies were on picket. In the skirmish Captain Clement lost six men and eight horses, supposed to have been captured. Lieutenant Doyle, of Captain Caskie's company, having absented himself from camp since the skirmish, I cannot be positive as to the exact number missing in his company. They report four missing, making ten in all. Three of the ten are reported wounded. How many of the enemy were killed we cannot tell; several saddles were emptied and five horses killed. One hundred men were dismounted and in ambush this side of the swamp, the rest of the regiment was drawn up in protecting distance, with seven pieces of artillery. Not less than fifteen hundred cavalry could be seen on the opposite hill, in addition to which I have since learned there was a large body of infantry also. I held my position on this side the bridge all day; the enemy, maintaining his on opposite hill, about twelve hundred yards distant, moved off in the night, leaving a few pickets only, which could be seen next morning.

On the 6th, I scouted on opposite side of the swamp some four or five miles, capturing eight prisoners.

I have made diligent search as to negligence on part of picket, but have found nothing indicating negligence, unless it be some of the men did not believe, after being told by picket, that the enemy were approaching, and Lieutenant Doyle, thoughtlessly, was dismounted, and had sent his horse some distance to water. My pickets were so placed, it seems to me, without carelessness, could not have been captured.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. T. MAGRUDER,  
*Lieutenant Colonel commanding Tenth Cavalry.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL T. T. MUNFORD.

HEADQUARTERS ROBERTSON'S BRIGADE, 1862.

Major J. T. W. HAIRSTON,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that on the 25th August, my regiment, stationed near Waterloo bridge, was ordered to report to Major General Jackson for active service. One squadron sharpshooters, under Captain Ridgeley Brown, was left at the bridge, at Hinson's mill I was ordered in advance with instructions to picket every road leading towards the enemy, which roads were to be held until the whole army passed. The first night we halted at Salem, and occupied Thoroughfare Gap as soon after dawn as the advance could get there.

On the evening of the 26th, the advance guard captured some twelve or fifteen Yankees at Haymarket and Gainesville. They seemed entirely ignorant of any movement of our army, and we passed on towards Bristoe Station. Ascertaining that the depot was guarded by a company of cavalry and one of infantry, I was ordered to capture them (the pickets detailed *en route* had reduced my regiment to about one hundred men) and surprise their whole command; but most of their cavalry scampered away with their horses, and many of the infantry fled to the hotel and other houses, and opened fire upon us. Just at this crisis a train of cars approached, which we attempted to throw from the track by placing sills on it; but in this did not succeed, as the time and materials at hand were not sufficient. In this skirmish we killed two of the enemy, wounded seven and captured forty-three, including the lieutenant colonel of the fourth New York regiment, a major, three captains and four lieutenants. We also captured fourteen cavalry horses with some few sabres, carbines and pistols. Lieutenant Wilson and privates Saunders and Everett, of company A, were badly wounded by guns fired from the windows of the houses.

The Louisiana brigade came up to our support, and succeeded in capturing several trains of cars. The next day I was engaged in protecting the flank of General Ewell's division, and followed in his rear from Manassas, picking up stragglers and destroying stores abandoned the day previous by the enemy. At Groveton I was ordered to join the brigade under General Robertson. About four o'clock, P. M., on the 30th, my regiment was ordered to the front, when we arrived nearly upon the spot where my command had stood for hours during the battle of July 21st, 1861. We found a company of the enemy's cavalry, and Lieutenant Colonel Watts was ordered to charge them with one squadron, which he did with his usual good spirit, and put them to flight; but soon discovered that they were the advance guards of Gen. Buford's cavalry brigade, stationed under the hill, near Lewis' ford, which caused him to halt, when the rest of my regiment was ordered up to his support. As soon as I had formed my command, I determined to move to the rear for a better position; but as soon as

I commenced this move, the enemy advanced upon me. We were then near enough to hear each other's commands. Hearing the command, "Forward, trot," I wheeled my command to the right-about by fours, and went at them with drawn sabres. The enemy were in columns by regiments, composed of the first Michigan, fourth New York and first Virginia. My regiment, in line of battle, going at a gallop, went through the advanced line of the enemy, engaged this and the second line in a hand-to-hand fight. We were soon overpowered by numbers, and a running fight ensued, the two commands being thoroughly intermingled. As soon as the seventh and twelfth reinforced me, the whole of the enemy's command commenced a retreat. Had my regiment been promptly reinforced my command would not have suffered so severely. My regiment behaved as gallantly as any body of men could do. Lieutenant Colonel Watts, Major Breckinridge, Lieutenant Kelso, of company A, and Lieutenant Walton, of company C, were severely wounded. Privates William Watson, Caleb Dooley, of company A; B. Peck, S. W. McCluer, C. Frazier, J. M. Denton and W. Bishop, of company C; S. Martin, company D; J. Shelton, G. T. Rucker, company E; F. P. Harris, J. M. Garrett, G. Leftwitch, L. Roberts, company F; Jenkins, company G; R. A. Cheatham and James Walker, company H; Joseph Perkins and Moss, company K, and John Lonely and R. W. Nelson, of Captain Brown's Maryland company, were severely wounded and disabled. Some twelve others were slightly wounded, but continued with the command. Privates F. Noel and B. Watson, of Company A, and Mann, company H, were killed. It is proper to state that my own horse was killed, and that I was dismounted by a blow. I did not pursue the enemy further than Bull Run. General Robertson came up and assumed command.

The seventh and twelfth were much complimented by those who witnessed their pursuit of the enemy. I herewith, enclose reports of the commanding officers. The brigade captured about three hundred prisoners with a large number of horses, arms and accoutrements.

I am, Major, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

THOS. T. MUNFORD,

*Colonel commanding.*

REPORT OF COLONEL T. L. ROSSER.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH VIRGINIA CAVALRY, }  
January 10, 1863. }

General J. E. B. STUART, *commanding*:

\* \* \* \* \*

I arrived at Groveton, where I learned that the enemy was moving his wagons on a private road to Manassas Junction. I procured a section of artillery from Colonel Bradley Johnson and attacked them, dispersing their train and turning them back. This I reported to General Jackson, who proceeded to the point where I had attacked the enemy to examine the ground and the nature of the movement, ordering me at the same time to picket well to the front on the turnpike. I soon found that the enemy, being interrupted on this private road, had changed the direction of his march and came immediately down the pike. General Jackson then attacked him on his left flank, and I, holding my regiment on the right, occupied myself in guarding the right, and capturing many prisoners of cavalry and infantry. I camped on the field.

Next morning I moved around to Gainesville, where, after capturing about forty cavalry, I was driven back by the enemy's infantry. Soon after this, I received orders from General Stuart to join the column advancing from Haymarket.

\* \* \* \* \*

Respectfully,

T. L. ROSSER,

*Colonel Fifth Virginia Cavalry.*

Official:

R. CHANNING PRICE,

*First Lieutenant and A. A. A. General.*

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH VIRGINIA CAVALRY, }  
October 5, 1862. }

To Major General J. E. B. STUART,  
*Commanding Cavalry Division:*

GENERAL: On the morning of August 30th, my regiment having been considerably reduced by details of one kind or other, the remainder was, in obedience to your order, placed on picket on the extreme right, in the direction of Bristoe, under command of Major Douglas.

Having been placed in command of all the artillery under your command the day previous, I still exercised control of it, and near \_\_\_\_\_ house, occupied by you as your headquarters, with Stirling's and Rodgers' batteries, I had been firing an occasional shot

at the enemy, who threatened the position occupied by General Hood. When the order for the lines to advance was given, the enemy's position on the right being very strong, (occupying high wooded ground,) I threw Captains Eshleman, (Washington artillery,) Stribling and Rodgers on the extreme right of our lines, sending Richardson (Washington artillery) more to the left, to take position near the Chinn house, Stribling sufficiently to the right and front, and opened on a portion of the enemy's lines and artillery, which fire very soon caused them to change their position ; then advancing by battery steadily on, when I arrived near the Wheeler house, where I found myself at least a half of a mile in advance of our lines on my left, thus driving the enemy, by this terrible fire of artillery, back on Bull Run.

Receiving information that the enemy was pressing the cavalry, which was my support on the right, I sent two guns of Captain Eshleman's battery, under command of Lieutenant Joseph Norcom, to its support. Seeing that I had an enfilading and reversed fire, I posted my guns to the best advantage and opened a most terrific fire upon him, which caused him to attempt to carry, by a desperate charge, my advance battery, which was gallantly met and repulsed by Rodger's canister ; but the cavalry being all the time my only support, and my position at this time being very close to the enemy, I drew my batteries up *en echelon*, and by keeping up a continued fire I soon caused the enemy to seek shelter under cover of the hill, which change in his position very much relieved our infantry.

Darkness had come on. The enemy's sharpshooters were lying just over the hill, in a thick undergrowth of pines. To advance my batteries to a thick undergrowth occupied entirely by infantry being perfectly absurd, and being unable to dislodge them, even with canister, I was unable to advance further. After making repeated, but fruitless, endeavors to get infantry (which, by the way, was at this time near at hand—Armistead's brigade) to drive them away, the firing all along the lines having ceased, I ordered the batteries also to cease firing and move.

I am proud to speak of the gallant conduct of Captain Rodgers and his command, who, by coolness and determination, received the charge of a brigade with a fearful volley of canister, waiting first until the enemy reached the deadly ground of fifty paces. Indeed, the conduct of both officers and men in this desperate struggle entitle them to their country's gratitude.

Early on the following morning, resuming command of my regiment, I withdrew my pickets and went in pursuit of the enemy, and, being very soon joined by you, the results you doubtless remember, as you were present and witnessed the conduct of the regiment on overtaking the enemy. Later in the day, Robertson's brigade having come up, in pursuance with your orders I proceeded, with a command composed of my regiment, a detail of fifty men of Robertson's command, and one piece of the Washington artillery, to Manassas, which I found abandoned, save but by over four hundred stragglers, whom I captured, with a large lot of small arms. Five elegant ambulances,

with horses and harness complete, and a quantity of medical stores, all of which were duly turned over to the proper authorities. After getting all information I could obtain from citizens, and from stragglers of Banks' division, (who, by the way, had retreated by way of Bristoe and Brentsville, after destroying a large lot of ammunition and stores at the former place,) I returned and rejoined my brigade next day.

I have the honor to be,

Most respectfully, General, your obedient servant,

T. L. ROSSER.

REPORT OF CAPTAIN SQUIERS OF THE WASHINGTON  
ARTILLERY.

BIVOUAC NEAR MARTINSBURG, VA., }  
September 22, 1862. }

Colonel J. B. WALTON,  
*Chief of Artillery Right Wing, A. N. V.:*

COLONEL: Early on the morning of the 23d of August, the artillery, composed of the first company of Washington Artillery, (four three-inch rifles,) and Captain Stribbling's battery, (three Napoleon guns and one three-inch rifle,) marched in the direction of the hill opposite to Rappahannock Station, which you had previously ordered should be occupied by these batteries. While *en route*, Major J. J. Garnett informed me that the infantry which was to support the artillery was late in forming, and ordered me to place the guns under cover until the support should arrive. Shortly after the brigade of General Evans came up and took position. In the meantime Lieutenant Chapman reported with a section of the Dixie Artillery, composed of one Napoleon gun and one three-inch rifle. Major Garnett ordered me to place the batteries in line in rear of the hill which, in your reconnaissance, you had determined should be occupied by the artillery, which was to form the right of the line of fire. The batteries were formed in line from right to left in the following order: First company Washington Artillery, four three-inch rifle guns; Dixie Artillery, one Napoleon gun and one three-inch rifle; Stribbling's battery, three Napoleon guns and one three-inch rifle. This had scarcely been accomplished when the signal was given from your position to "commence firing," which was quickly responded to by the enemy. The combat was briskly carried on by the artillery directly in our front for half an hour, when the enemy placed a battery on the extreme left, and had partly succeeded in enfilading our batteries, when I withdrew the section of Lieutenant Galbraith, and directed him to engage the enemy on the left, in order to keep him from enfilading our position, which object Lieutenant G. accomplished under a heavy fire, and was partly forced from his first position, when Lieutenant Sandry, with a section of Captain Maurin's battery, reported, and was sent to assist Lieutenant G.—the four guns being placed under Lieutenant G., who managed to keep a heavy enfilading fire from the main batteries by the coolness and bravery with which he manœuvred this battery. The fire on both sides now became general and rapid. The enemy placed more artillery in position, and for some time I thought I should have to retire, but the enemy soon slackened his fire, and it was evident he was worsted by the projectiles with which our artillerists assailed him. An officer now came from the right and informed me that the infantry were preparing to charge,

and to cease firing as soon as they appeared. I kept up the fire, returning shot for shot with the enemy, who appeared to be willing to give up the combat. Seeing this, and being informed that General Evans (commanding the infantry) was advancing to attack the enemy, I ordered the four (reserve) guns of Lieutenant Galbraith in position, to engage the enemy's artillery and draw his attention while our troops were advancing. Our artillery now consisted of eight guns, viz: One section of the Washington Artillery and one section of Maurin's battery, Lieutenant E. Owen, of the Washington Artillery, commanding; one section of the Washington Artillery and one section of the Dixie Artillery, Lieutenant Galbraith commanding. Captain Stribbling had expended all his ammunition, and I ordered him from the field to replenish. The firing was now briskly renewed on both sides, which lasted for twenty minutes. The enemy finally gave up his position, retired across the Rappahannock, and only replied occasionally to our fire, and in an hour after ceased firing altogether.

It is with pleasure I am enabled to speak of the gallantry with which Captain Stribbling, officers and men, behaved on this occasion. Lieutenant Chapman, with his section of the Dixie Artillery, behaved with great coolness, and handled his guns with effect. To Lieutenants E. Owen, J. M. Galbraith, and those under their command, I would especially call your attention. Both officers commanded full batteries, and handled them with the coolness, bravery and good judgment which has so often on previous occasions won the confidence of their men. Sergeants T. T. Aby, C. L. C. Duprey and L. M. Montgomery rendered me efficient service. The latter, on previous occasions, has placed me under many obligations for his voluntary services.

#### *Casualties :*

*First Company Battalion Washington Artillery.*—Killed: Privates W. Chambers, R. T. Marshall, J. Reddington and H. Koss—4. Wounded: Corporal W. H. West, privates John R. Fell, T. T. Turner, M. Mount and W. R. Falconer.—5.

*Dixie Artillery.*—Wounded: Privates John Eddins, Westley Pence, John Knight and Daniel Martin—4.

*Stribbling's Battery.*—Wounded: Lieutenant Archer and one private—2.

Total, 4 killed and 8 wounded.

	Horses Killed.	Wounded.
First company Bat. Washington Art'y,	1	1
Stribbling's battery,	4	0
Dixie battery,	1	0
Total,	6	—

One three-inch rifle gun exploded during action. The batteries

were engaged from about seven o'clock, A. M., to eleven o'clock, A. M., and expended the following ammunition:

First company Washington Artillery,	-	-	-	-	400
Section of Dixie Artillery,	-	-	-	-	299
Section of Maurin's Artillery,	-	-	-	-	119
Stribbling's Artillery,	-	-	-	-	354
Leake's Artillery, (one gun,) -	-	-	-	-	10
<hr/>					
Total number of rounds,	-	-	-	-	1,182

Captain Leake reported after the enemy had retired with one rifle and three smooth-bore guns. He sustained no loss. About two o'clock, P. M., Major Garnett rode up and requested me to send four rifle guns to Colonel S. D. Lee, who was on the right, near the Central railroad. For this purpose I detached Lieutenant Owen with one section of the Washington Artillery and one section of Maurin's battery. In obedience to your orders, at half-past five o'clock, P. M., I ordered all the guns back to their respective commands.

Very respectfully, Colonel, your obedient servant,

C. W. SQUIERS,

*Captain commanding First Company Bat. Washington Artillery.*

# REPORT OF CAPTAIN MILLER, WASHINGTON ARTILLERY.

BIVOUAC NEAR MARTINSBURG, September 23d, 1862.

To Colonel J. B. WALTON,

*Colonel and Chief of Artillery Division :*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that on the morning of the 23d August, ultimo, pursuant to your orders, I proceeded with my battery of four smooth-bore Napoleon twelve-pounders, to a point on the right of and near the road to Beverley ford, on the Rappahannock river, and distant about a thousand yards from the river. My position on a hill sloping towards the river, was not such a one as I would have desired, though doubtless the best the locality afforded. At sunrise, I discovered a battery of the enemy in position immediately in our front on a hill on the north side of the river, and I opened on it with spherical case. The enemy replied briskly, and for half an hour the firing was very spirited. During this time, I was considerably annoyed by an enfilading fire of a long-range battery, posted to our right, and entirely beyond our range. After nearly an hour's engagement, I was gratified to notice that the fire of the battery in our front had perceptibly slackened, indeed, almost entirely ceased. Up to this time but one of my men had been wounded, and two horses killed. The batteries supporting me on my left at this juncture retired from the field, subjecting me to a galling cross fire from the enemy's rifle battery in their front. I immediately changed front on the left and replied. The enemy having our exact range, fired with terrible precision and effect. For some time we maintained this unequal conflict, when, having nearly exhausted my ammunition, and, agreeably to your orders, I retired by half battery from the field.

I have to mourn the loss of a gallant officer in the person of First Lieutenant Isaac W. Brewer, who was killed just as he was taking his section from the field. Throughout the fight he managed his section with consummate ability, and fell while cheering his men. The service has lost no braver officer.

My casualties were:

Killed, First Lieut. I. W. Brewer; privates, Thompson, McDonald and Dolan—four.

Wounded, Corporal P. W. Pettiss; privates James Tully, Levy, Bourshee, Maxwell, Crilly, Kerwin, Lynch and Joubert—nine.

Twenty-one horses killed. Three hundred and fifty-six rounds ammunition expended.

I would be pleased to pay a tribute to the coolness and intrepidity of my command; but, where all acted so well, it would be invidious to particularize. I should be wanting in my duty, however, were I not to mention Lieutenants Hero and McElroy, and my non-commissioned

officers, Sergeants McNeil, Handy, Collins, Ellis and Stocker, and Corporals Coyle, Kremnelberg, Pettiss and De Blanc, who, by their coolness and close attention to duty, contributed not a little to the efficiency of my battery.

Respectfully,

M. B. MILLER,

*Captain commanding 3d company B. W. A.*

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL R. L. WALKER.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY BATTALION, *March 1, 1863.*

Major R. C. MORGAN,

*Assistant Adjutant General, Light Division:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the artillery of the light division in the series of battles, commencing with Warrenton Springs, August 24, 1862:

We arrived, as you know, near Warrenton Springs, on Friday evening the 22d of August. My command was all encamped that night near Scott's house. At early dawn on Saturday morning, I had all my batteries, with the exception of Captain Crenshaw's (his being short-range guns) battery, posted on the heights. Captain McIntosh's occupying the right, Captain Latham next, Captain Fleet and Lieutenant Hardy next. On west side of the road leading from Jeffersonton to Warrenton Springs, Captains Braxton and Davidson were in position. All was quiet on Saturday, until late in the evening, when the enemy advanced several of their batteries and attacked the artillery and infantry of General Early's brigade, which had been thrown across the river. In this we took no part. On Sunday morning, the 24th August, the enemy commenced taking position opposite our batteries. General Early having been withdrawn, at ten o'clock they opened a terrific fire upon our position, to which we replied for a few minutes, but received an order to withhold our fire until the infantry should make its appearance. At about twelve, the enemy's infantry advanced, apparently with the intention of taking possession of the bridge which we, the day before, constructed. In accordance with orders, we opened upon them with all the guns. They were soon driven back, occasionally showing themselves afterwards; but with the same result. Their loss was great, and, though we were under a terrific fire from not less than seven batteries from ten o'clock till six, P. M., our loss was very small. The officers and men distinguished themselves on this occasion. We were relieved, at six o'clock, P. M., by the artillery of General Hood's division, and retired to camp near Jeffersonton. My batteries were unparked at early dawn on Monday morning, August 25th, and, after a most fatiguing march, arrived at Bristoe Station about nine o'clock Tuesday night, where we camped for the night. Wednesday morning, I was ordered to follow my division to Manassas. As we approached the junction we were fired upon by two of the enemy's rifled guns. Captain Pegram being in front, his battery was carried forward and placed in position in an old redoubt. Captain Braxton's battery was posted on the east side of the railroad, and the batteries of Captains McIntosh and Crenshaw occupied the intermediate ground. The enemy's battery was soon silenced, and a New Jersey brigade was, after some very pretty practice on the part of Captains Pegram, Crenshaw, McIntosh and Braxton, broken and put to flight. We moved on with the intention of

following them up, but the character of the country was such as to render successful pursuit impossible, and the idea was abandoned. There was no loss on our side; but it is believed that the loss of the enemy was considerable. Wednesday night, at twelve o'clock, we took up line of march for Centreville, and from thence we marched to the battle-field of Manassas, where we arrived Thursday evening, the 28th of August. The artillery took no part in the engagement of that afternoon. On Friday, the 29th August, the batteries were placed in position on the ridge in rear and to the left of General A. P. Hill's division. Captain Braxton's battery was engaged early in the forenoon on the extreme left, with the loss of some of his horses. Upon the cessation of the enemy's fire, ours ceased also. In the afternoon, a section of Captain Pegram's battery hotly engaged the enemy on the right. His position was in rear of General Fields' and Gregg's brigades. The loss of this section was very heavy, and, the fire continuing with unremitting severity, it was withdrawn. Captain Braxton was then ordered to the position, and, with five guns, held it, with loss, under a terrific fire, until night closed in upon the field. Captain Crenshaw's battery was also engaged during the day from a point in rear of General Pender's brigade. On Saturday, August 30th, the batteries of Captains Braxton, Pegram, Latham, Davidson, McIntosh and Crenshaw, were all engaged at intervals on the left and rear of the infantry. The enemy made several demonstrations with both infantry and artillery on the left, all of which were promptly repelled by those batteries.

In the battle of Ox Hill, Monday, September 1st, my command did not participate, though near the spot and under fire. Two of the batteries, viz: Captain McIntosh's and Braxton's, being in position.

At Leesburg, the batteries of Captains Latham and Fleet, and a section of Captain Pegram's, were, by order, left in camp to recruit. Nothing worthy of mention in this report transpired in our march through Maryland, nor until our arrival at Harper's Ferry on the 13th of September.

In the afternoon of Sunday, the 14th, my artillery, by order of Major General Hill, went into battery on a height some two miles southwest of Bolivar Heights, from which point we shelled the woods on Bolivar Heights, south of the enemy's earthworks. About sunset of the same evening, the rifle section of Captain McIntosh's command went into battery on Bolivar Heights at a point about eight hundred yards distant from the enemy's earthworks. General Hill's division being in advance of him.

Before dawn next morning, Monday 18th, a section from the batteries of Captains Braxton, Pegram and Davidson, and the full battery of Captain Crenshaw, were carried, though with much difficulty, to the point occupied by Captain McIntosh, (Captain Crenshaw's battery was held in reserve, there being no position for his guns.) At daylight, the batteries opened with rapid and effective fire upon the enemy's works, and were responded to by two batteries, firing quickly and without good direction.

By General Hill's order, our fire ceased as soon as that of the

enemy was discontinued, which occurred in an hour. At the latter part of the engagement, Captain Crenshaw relieved Captain Braxton, whose ammunition was exhausted.

After a short interval, the enemy's guns again opened, but slowly and without effect. The guns of Captains Pegram and Crenshaw were advanced about four hundred yards nearer their earthworks, and opened furiously upon it. In five minutes a white flag floated upon the works, and the battle ceased. In this battle our casualties were slight, as heretofore reported.

I carried four of my batteries into the fight at Sharpsburg, viz: Braxton's, Pegram's, McIntosh's and Crenshaw's; Captain Davidson's was left at Harper's Ferry with General Thomas' brigade. My command arrived upon the field at about three, P. M., and went immediately into action. Captain McIntosh took position to the right and in rear of General Toombs' brigade—in rear of the position afterwards taken by General Archer's brigade. Here he was hotly encountered by several batteries of the enemy, to whom he responded vigorously until his attention was attracted by the steady and formidable advance of the enemy's infantry upon his position. The infantry on the left not supporting him, the enemy continued to advance in defiance of his rapid and effective fire, until within sixty yards of his guns, when Captain McIntosh was forced to withdraw his men, horses and limbers. By this time, General Archer's brigade had formed in line of battle to the rear of the battery, and, before the enemy reached the guns, charged and drove them back in great confusion. Captain Pegram's battery was posted on the right of Captain McIntosh's, and directed to fire chiefly upon the enemy's infantry. One gun of this battery (the ammunition of the balance having given out) together with Captain Braxton's rifle, which had been engaging the enemy from a point to the right and rear of Captain Pegram's, were, at four and-a-half, P. M., placed in battery on a height forming the extreme right of the light division and giving an enfilading fire. From this point, they were worked with beautiful precision and great effect upon the infantry of the enemy till nightfall closed the engagement. Captain Pegram's gun was withdrawn after a few rounds, the men being exhausted by their march from Harper's Ferry and the labor of the guns. Captain Crenshaw's battery was the last to reach the field and take position on a hill in front of Captain McIntosh's, from which, disregarding the enemy's artillery, he directed his fire entirely at their infantry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. L. WALKER,  
*Lieutenant Colonel commanding Battalion.*

REPORT OF COLONEL A. W. HARMAN.

HEADQUARTERS TWELFTH VIRGINIA CAVALRY, }  
October 6, 1862. }

To Colonel T. T. MUNFORD,  
*Commanding Robertson's Brigade:*

COLONEL: At Manassas, on the 30th of August, about four o'clock, P. M., I was ordered, with six companies of my regiment, (A, B, C, D, E, F and H,) to support the second Virginia cavalry. I found the enemy occupying the hill to the right of the Lewis house with the first Virginia cavalry, supported by a New York and the first Michigan cavalry, drawn up about two hundred yards in their rear. I charged the regiment on the hill and drove them back on their supports, which were, in quick succession, broken and driven back in complete disorder. I pursued them over the run and as far as the pike, near the stone bridge, capturing many prisoners, among them Colonel Broadhead and Major Atwood, of the first Michigan cavalry, the former severely wounded. My loss was six men wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. W. HARMAN,  
*Colonel Twelfth Virginia Cavalry.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR PELHAM OF ACTION AT GROVETON HEIGHTS.

NEAR FREDERICKSBURG, January 10, 1863.

General J. E. B. STUART:

GENERAL: In compliance with your wishes, I submit the following memoranda of the part taken by my battery in the battle of Groveton Heights:

By your orders, I left Centreville on Thursday, the 28th of August, 1862, in rear of General Jackson's corps. I marched without interruption till I had crossed Bull Run, at Lewis' ford, when a small party of the enemy's cavalry appeared in my rear. I detached Lieutenant Breathed with one piece as a rear-guard, and moved on with the rest of my battery. A few well-directed shots from Breathed's gun drove the enemy off. I moved up the Warrenton pike, and, when near the "Jim Robinson house," I overtook the rear of General A. P. Hill's division, which had just left the turnpike and was moving along a by-road to the right. I moved to the right of this division and passed it. I moved on and parked my battery in a field, where General Jackson had ordered all his artillery to await orders.

Just before night, orders came for twenty pieces to move rapidly to the front. I took three pieces, at a gallop, through a thick wood in front of this general park, bearing to the right of the troops in position, (Ewell's division,) crossed the old railroad about one mile from Groveton, and took position between it and the turnpike. I neglected to state that one of my guns was unable to keep up and was lost from the battery, it being dark and the road narrow and winding. I reported to General Jackson, and he told me that his chief of artillery, Major Shumaker, would show me a position. He conducted me across the railroad, as above stated. I moved on at a gallop until a heavy volley of musketry apprised me of the enemy's presence. I immediately put my guns in position, and engaged them at about fifty or sixty yards. We continued the fight for an hour or more, when, our reinforcements coming up, we drove the enemy back.

During the latter part of this fight I had but one gun, the other having been taken off by the order of some *mounted officer*. It was dark, and no one could tell who he was, while my attention was wholly directed to the right piece.

After the fight was over, I collected the other pieces of my battery and reported to General Stuart the next morning. [See his memoranda up to this time.] I was, by him, ordered to report to General Jackson, which I did; and he ordered me to ride over the field with him, and, after pointing out the different roads, he gave me discretionary orders to engage my battery wherever a fitting opportunity should

occur. General A. P. Hill sent for some artillery to be thrown rapidly forward, as the enemy were giving way. I placed my battery in position, near the railroad, and opened on some batteries and a column of infantry posted on the hills around Groveton.

JOHN PELHAM,  
*Major Horse Artillery.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR HAIRSTON.

GAINESVILLE, August 29, 1862—8, P. M.

To Colonel CHILTON, *A. A. G.*:

In obedience to General Lee's order, I started this morning, at eight o'clock, with one hundred and fifty cavalry, to go to Warrenton, "to find out if any of the enemy's forces were still in the vicinity of that place." I went from Thoroughfare to the right on a by-road, which took me into the Winchester road two miles below Warrenton, and came up to the rear of the town. I enquired of the citizens and persons I met on the way, but could not hear that any of their forces were in the vicinity of that place. They informed me that the last left yesterday morning in the direction of Gainesville and Warrenton Junction. We picked up on the way forty-six prisoners, thirty muskets and rifles, one deserter from the Stuart horse artillery, and one sutler, with his wagon and driver. I also paroled two lieutenants in Warrenton, who were too sick to travel. What shall I do with the prisoners?

Respectfully, your obedient servant,  
SAMUEL H. HAIRSTON,  
*Major commanding, by order of General Lee.*

NOTE.—This was made of men from every regiment in your command, with one entire company, headed by the captain, that General Lee had handled at Thoroughfare and turned over to me when he ordered me to go on the expedition.

S. H. H.

REPORT OF CAPTAIN MYERS OF SEVENTH VIRGINIA  
CAVALRY.

CAMP SEVENTH VIRGINIA CAVALRY,  
October 25, 1862. }

Colonel MUNFORD,

*Commanding Robertson's Brigade:*

The seventh regiment, under my charge on the 30th August last, formed the third regiment in column (the twelfth preceding it and the second being in advance) when the order was given for us to advance towards Centreville from our position on the extreme right of the infantry that day. We moved about two miles in that direction, when the command was halted a little to the right of the road we started on, and the second ordered over the hill on the right of the column. The second being soon engaged with the enemy, we were ordered to support it, the twelfth preceding the seventh regiment. When the head of our right came to the top of the hill, on the right, the enemy were drawn up in line of battle on an opposite hill, about four hundred yards distant, their line extending a considerable distance on the left. When the second and twelfth engaged the enemy, I ordered the regiment to charge, with drawn sabres, on their right flank, which the whole command obeyed with the greatest alacrity, charging upon them with shouts that made the very welkin ring and routing the entire line on our left, and by dashing on after the retreating foe, and charging another force of them that had formed on our right, in a woods, about eight hundred yards from the first line, we cut off a large number of them on our right, a portion of whom the seventh captured, and the others by the second and twelfth. After breaking, the enemy formed in the woods, we pursued them about three-quarters of a mile beyond Bull Run, when we were ordered back. On the opposite bluff of Bull Run, a portion of them, with a small piece of artillery, had formed again. They fired one round of grape, after which they all broke again and made no other stand. We captured some forty prisoners below Bull Run. The whole command did their duty nobly.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL B. MYERS,

*Captain commanding.*

## MAJOR HAWKS' REPORT OF CAPTURED STORES.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT SECOND ARMY CORPS,  
Guineas Station, Feb. 6, 1862. }

Lieutenant General JACKSON,  
*Commanding Second Army Corps:*

GENERAL: The following statement of property captured by your command is as nearly complete as I can make it;

At Front Royal—Eighty-five barrels of flour.

Winchester and Martinsbug—One hundred and three cattle, 92,700 pounds gross, 14,637 pounds bacon, 6,000 pounds hard bread, 2,400 pounds sugar, 350 bushels salt.

Harper's Ferry—One thousand three hundred and fifteen pounds salt pork, 1,545 pounds salt beef, 19,267 pounds bacon, 155,954 pounds hard bread, 628 pounds rice, 4,930 pounds coffee, 209 pounds sugar, 67 pounds candles, 280 pounds soap, 9 bushels beans, 154 bushels salt, 180 gallons vinegar, 80 gallons molasses.

At McDowell nothing was captured except hard bread, which was issued to troops passing through—an extra ration.

At Winchester, Martinsburg and Harper's Ferry large amounts of supplies were carried off by division wagons, of which no report was made to me. Full rations issued to thirteen thousand of the enemy for two days at Harper's Ferry. The issue was made before an inventory was taken.

Very respectfully,

W. J. HAWKS,  
*Major and Commissary of Sub., Second Army Corps, A. N. V.*

## MAJOR HARMAN'S REPORT OF CAPTURED STORES.

Lieutenant General JACKSON,

*Commanding Second Corps A. N. V.:*

List of property captured and turned into the Chief Quartermaster Valley District, during the second and third quarters, 1862:

Ninety-four quires letter paper, 64 1-2 quires cap paper, 10 quires note paper, 3,425 envelopes, 172 steel pens, 95 bottles ink, 1 bottle red ink, 1 bottle mucilage, 65 camp stoves, 2 cooking stoves, 292 tin plates, 52 spoons, 20 tin cups, 80 table knives, 31 table forks, 12 acksp cards, 8 anvils, 1 set blacksmith's tools, 33 crow-bars, 7 viles, 575 rasps, 12 files, 31 hatchets, 15 cross-cut saws, 1 auger, 10 hammers, 3 sets carpenter's tools, 5 chests, 1 iron maul, 1 peg cutter, 233 horses, 21 mules, 19 wagons, 9 sets lead harness, 2 sets wheel harness, 87 pair traces, 13 pair artillery traces, 47 halter chains, 10 tar buckets, 61 collars, 12 saddles, 21 bridles, 27 artillery saddles, 6 artillery valises, 2 leg guards, 19 pair artillery harness, 5 breast straps, 5 breeching, 16 feed pockets, 25 wagon bolts, 350 wagon hammers, 8 wheelbarrows, 13 axes, 127 helvess, 277 picks, 212 shovels, 82 spades, 50 mess pans, 71 camp kettles, 1 skillet lid, 305 pairs shoes, 2 pairs ladies' shoes, 2 pairs misses shoes, 3 pairs children's shoes, 30 oil-cloth blankets, 14 blankets, 2 hats, 2 3-4 dozen neck ties, 7 pairs suspenders, 6 handkerchiefs, 28 picked pins, 1 pulley block, 1 jack screw, 190 insulators, 134 tents, 144 buckles, 545 yards cotton cloth, 3,816 horse shoes, 14,061 pounds do., 840 pounds horse shoe nails, 50 pounds nails, 20 pounds spikes, 303 pounds rope, 200 feet picked rope, 275 pounds iron, 4 kegs grease, 1 barrel tar, 5,300 pounds leather, 1 case of oil, 29 bundles telegraph wire, 3 platform scales, 1 keg white lead.

In addition to the above, which is a list of the captured property that came into my possession, a considerable amount came into the hands of the various quartermasters of the command, which it is supposed they have reported to Richmond. A large amount of the property captured, however, was not turned into the quartermaster's department at all—the order to turn over such property not having been fully carried out, especially by the cavalry.

A very large amount of medical and ordnance stores were captured and sent off by me, for the character and amounts of which I refer you to the heads of those departments. Throughout the corps, many worn-out wagons were exchanged for good Yankee ones—the useless ones being left behind.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. HARMAN,  
*Major and Chief Quartermaster, Second Corps.*

# BATTLE OF FREDERICKSBURG.

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## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL LONGSTREET.

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS, A. N. V., }  
Near Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 20, 1862. }

Brigadier General R. H. CHILTON,  
*Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: Upon my arrival at Fredericksburg, on the 19th of November, the troops of this command were assigned to positions as follows, viz: McLaws division upon the heights immediately behind the city and south of the Telegraph road; Anderson's division on McLaws' left and occupying the heights as far as Taylor's hill on the Rappahannock; Pickett's division on McLaws' right and extending to the rear along the margin of the wood which skirts Deep Run valley; Hood's division near Hamilton's Crossing of the railroad; Ransom's division in reserve, near my headquarters. Our batteries were assigned positions along the heights by General Pendleton, Colonel Cabell, Colonel Alexander and Captain Johnson, (Colonel Walton being absent sick.) Pits were made for the protection of these batteries under the supervision of those officers. A portion of General Pendleton's reserve artillery was assigned to the heights with Major General McLaws' division. Colonel Walton's (Washington Artillery) occupied the heights at Marye's Hill, and a portion of Colonel Alexander's reserve occupied the other portion of Anderson's front, extending to the Taylor house, on our left. The brigade batteries that were not assigned to positions on the heights were held in readiness to co-operate with their commands, or for any other service that might be required of them. Our picket line was established along the river bank extending from Bank's ford to Talcott battery, the most important portion of it under the immediate orders of Major General McLaws. Upon the approach of General Jackson's army, Hood's division was closed in upon the right of Pickett, and put in position upon the heights on the opposite side of Deep Run valley. In addition to the

natural strength of the position, ditches, stone-fences and road-cuts, were found along different portions of the line, and parts of General McLaws' line were further strengthened by rifle-trenches and abattis.

The enemy held quiet possession of the Stafford Heights until three o'clock on the morning of the 11th, when our signal guns gave notice of his approach. The troops, being at their different camp grounds, were formed immediately and marched to their positions along the line. Ransom's division was ordered to take a sheltered position in easy supporting distance of the batteries on the Marye Hill. Before the troops got to their positions, McLaws' pickets (Barksdale's brigade) engaged the enemy at the river, and from time to time, drove back different working parties engaged in laying the bridges. The enemy was compelled, eventually, to abandon his plan of laying the bridges, and began to throw his troops across the river in boats, under cover of the fire of his sharpshooters, and an hundred and fifty odd pieces of artillery.

At many points along the river bank our troops could get no protection from the artillery fire. This was particularly the case at the mouth of Deep Run, where the enemy succeeded in completing his bridge early in the afternoon. Later in the afternoon he succeeded in throwing large bodies of troops across, at the city, by using his boats. Barksdale, however, engaged them fiercely at every point, and with remarkable success. Soon after dark, General McLaws ordered Barksdale's brigade to retire. The General was so confident of his position that a second order was sent him before he would yield the field. His brigade was then relieved by that of Brigadier General T. R. R. Cobb, which was placed by General McLaws along the Telegraph road, in front of Marye's house, (a stone fence and cut along this road gave good protection against infantry.) When Cobb's brigade got into position, Ransom's division was withdrawn and placed in reserve. During the night the enemy finished his bridges and began to throw his troops across.

His movements, early on the 12th, seemed to be directly against our right; but when the fog lifted, columns were seen opposite Fredericksburg, the head of them then crossing at the bridges opposite the city. Ransom's division was moved back to the Marye Hill. Featherston's brigade of Anderson's division, (previously occupying this hill) was closed in upon the other brigades of Anderson. The entire day was occupied by the enemy in throwing his forces across the river, and deploying his columns. Our batteries were opened upon the masses of infantry whenever they were in certain range. Our fire invariably drew that of the enemy's on the opposite heights, and they generally kept up the fire long after our batteries had ceased.

Early on the morning of the 13th, I rode to the right of my position, Hood's division. The dense fog in the early twilight concealed the enemy from view; but his commands, "Forward, guide centre, march!" were distinctly heard at different points near my right. From the direction of the sound, and the position of his troops the day before, I concluded that his attack would be upon General Jackson, at some point beyond my right. I therefore rode back to a point near

the centre of my forces, giving notice to General Hood that the enemy would attack General Jackson beyond his right, that he should watch carefully the movements, and when an opportunity offered, he should move forward and attack the enemy's flank. Similar instructions were given to General Pickett, with orders to co-operate with General Hood. The attack was made as had been anticipated. It did not appear to have all the force of a real attack, however, and General Hood did not feel authorized to make more than a partial advance. Where he did move out, he drove the enemy back in handsome style.

About eleven o'clock, A. M., I sent orders for the batteries to play upon the streets and bridges beyond the city, by way of diversion in favor of our right. The batteries had hardly opened, when the enemy's infantry began to move out towards my line. Our pickets in front of the Marye house were soon driven in, and the enemy began to deploy his forces in front of that point. Our artillery being in position, opened fire as soon as the masses became dense enough to warrant it. This fire was very destructive and demoralizing in its effects, and frequently made gaps in the enemy's ranks that could be seen at the distance of a mile. The enemy continued his advance and made his attack at the Marye Hill in handsome style. He did not meet the fire of our infantry with any heart, however, and was therefore readily repulsed. Another effort was speedily made; but with little more success. The attack was again renewed, and again repulsed. Other forces were seen preparing for another attack, when I suggested to General McLaws the propriety of reinforcing his advanced line with a brigade. He had previously reinforced with part of Kershaw's brigade, and ordered forward the balance. About this time, Brigadier General T. R. R. Cobb fell, mortally wounded, and almost simultaneously Brigadier General J. R. Cooke was severely wounded.

General Kershaw dashed to the front to take the command. General Ransom, on the Marye Hill, was charged with the immediate care of the point attacked, with orders to send forward additional reinforcements, if it should become necessary, and to use Featherston's brigade (Anderson's division) if he should require it.

The attack upon our right seemed to subside about two o'clock, when I directed Major General Pickett to send me two of his brigades. One (Kemper's) was sent to General Ransom, to be placed in some secure position to be ready in case it should be wanted. The other (Jenkins') was ordered to General McLaws, to replace that of Kershaw in his line.

The enemy soon completed his arrangements for a renewed attack, and moved forward with much determination. He met with no better success than he had on the previous occasions. These efforts were repeated and continued from time to time till after night, when he left the field literally strewn with his dead and wounded.

Colonel Walton's ammunition was exhausted about sunset, and his batteries were relieved by Colonel Alexander's. Orders were given for fresh supplies of ammunition, and for everything to be prepared for a renewal of the battle at daylight.

On the 14th there was little firing between the sharpshooters. The

enemy screening his forces under a slight descent in the ground, held a position about four hundred yards in front of us. In the afternoon, I sent Capt. Latrobe, of my staff, to the left to place artillery in position to play along the enemy's line, with instructions to Colonel Alexander to use such artillery there as he might think proper. The point was selected and the pits made by light the following morning. General Ransom was also ordered to strengthen his position on the Marye Hill by rifle trenches. Similar instructions were sent along the entire line. These preparations were made to meet the grand attack of the enemy, *confidently expected* on Monday morning. As the attack was not made, the artillery and General Ransom's sharpshooters opened upon the enemy and drove him back to cover in the city.

During the night, the enemy recrossed the river. His retreat was not discovered till he had crossed the river and cut his bridges at this end. Our sharpshooters were moved forward, and our old positions resumed.

Four hundred prisoners, fifty-five hundred stands of small arms, and two hundred and fifty thousand rounds of small arm ammunition were captured.

Our loss, for the number engaged, was quite heavy. Brigadier General T. R. R. Cobb fell, mortally wounded, in the heat of the battle of the 13th. He defended his position with great gallantry and ability. In him we have lost one of our most promising officers and statesmen. A tabular statement and lists of the killed, wounded and missing accompany this report.

Much credit is due Major General McLaws for his untiring zeal and ability in preparing his troops and his position, for a successful resistance, and the ability with which he handled his troops after the attack. I would also mention, as particularly distinguished in the engagement of the 13th, Brigadier Generals Ransom, Kershaw and Cooke, (severely wounded,) and Colonel McMillan, who succeeded to the command of Cobb's brigade, and Colonel Walton, (Washington Artillery,) and Lieutenant Colonel Alexander, (reserve artillery.)

Brigadier General Barksdale, with his brigade, held the enemy's entire army at the river bank for sixteen hours, giving us abundance of time to complete our arrangements for battle. A more gallant and worthy service is rarely accomplished by so small a force.

I refer you the reports of these officers for more detailed accounts of the engagements. I desire to call the attention of the Government to the gallant officers and men mentioned in their reports.

Major Generals Anderson, Pickett and Hood, with their gallant divisions, were deprived of their opportunity by the unexpected and hasty retreat of the enemy. A portion of General Anderson's command was engaged in defending the passage of the river; a portion of General Hood's in driving back the attack against our right, and a portion of Pickett's did important service near the Marye Hill. I refer you to their reports for particular accounts.

Major Gaanett held three batteries in reserve, in the valley between the positions of Generals Pickett and Hood, and was much disappointed not to have the opportunity to use them.

My staff officers, Major Sorrell, Lieutenant Colonel Manning, Maj. Fairfax, Captain Latrobe, Captain Goree, and Lieutenant Blackwell, gave me their usual intelligent, willing aid. Major Haskell, Captain Young and Captain Rodgers, volunteered their assistance and rendered important services.

My thanks are also due to Surgeon Cullen, chief surgeon; Major Mitchell, chief quartermaster; Major Moses, chief of the subsistence department, and Captain Manning, signal officer, for valuable services in their respective departments.

I have the honor to be, General,

Most respectfully your obedient servant,

JAMES LONGSTREET,

*Lieutenant General commanding.*

*LIST OF CASUALTIES in the First Army Corps, Army Northern Virginia, in the Battles before Fredericksburg, December, 1862.*

Division.	Brigade.	Regiment.	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
Anderson's.....	Perry's.....	5th Florida.....	.....	1	1
Anderson's.....	Perry's.....	8th Florida.....	7	37	44
Anderson's.....	Perry's .....	Donaldsonville artillery	1	5	6
Anderson's.....	Featherston's.....	19th Mississippi.....	.....	6	6
Anderson's.....	Featherston's.....	16th Mississippi.....	.....	13	13
Anderson's.....	Featherston's.....	2d Mississippi battalion	1	3	4
Anderson's.....	Featherston's.....	12th Mississippi.....	.....	5	5
Anderson's.....	Featherston's.....	Three batteries.....	.....	6	6
Anderson's.....	Wright's.....	3d Georgia.....	1	.....	1
Anderson's.....	Wright's.....	2d Georgia battalion.....	1	.....	1
Anderson's.....	Wilcox's.....	11th Alabama.....	3	5	8
Anderson's.....	Mahone's.....	6th Virginia.....	.....	1	1
Anderson's.....	Mahone's.....	41st Virginia.....	2	4	6
Anderson's.....	Mahone's.....	61st Virginia.....	.....	1	1
			16	87	103
Pickett's.....	Kemper's.....	1st Virginia.....	.....	9	9
Pickett's.....	Kemper's.....	3d Virginia.....	.....	5	5
Pickett's.....	Kemper's.....	7th Virginia.....	.....	4	4
Pickett's.....	Kemper's.....	11th Virginia.....	.....	13	13
Pickett's.....	Kemper's.....	21th Virginia.....	.....	7	7
Pickett's.....	Jenkins'.....	P. S. S.....	.....	4	4
Pickett's.....	Jenkins'.....	6th South Carolina.....	.....	1	1
Pickett's.....	Jenkins'.....	2d South Carolina.....	.....	3	3
			46	46	
Ransom's.....	Cook's.....	15th North Carolina.....	.....	103	103
Ransom's.....	Cook's.....	27th North Carolina.....	2	13	15
Ransom's.....	Cook's.....	46th North Carolina.....	.....	58	58
Ransom's.....	Cook's.....	48th North Carolina.....	17	161	178
Ransom's.....	Ransom's.....	24th North Carolina.....	4	24	28
Ransom's.....	Ransom's.....	25th North Carolina.....	13	75	88
Ransom's.....	Ransom's.....	38th North Carolina.....	9	20	29
Ransom's.....	Ransom's.....	49th North Carolina.....	.....	9	9
			45	463	508
Hood's.....	Law's.....	6th North Carolina.....	5	20	25
Hood's.....	Law's.....	44th Alabama.....	.....	1	1
Hood's.....	Law's.....	4th Alabama.....	3	16	19
Hood's.....	Law's.....	54th North Carolina.....	6	40	46
Hood's.....	Law's.....	57th North Carolina.....	32	192	224
Hood's.....	Toombs'.....	17th Georgia.....	.....	3	3
Hood's.....	Toombs'.....	15th Georgia.....	1	6	7
Hood's.....	Toombs'.....	20th Georgia.....	.....	2	2
Hood's.....	Robertson's.....	4th Texas.....	1	.....	1
Hood's.....	Robertson's.....	5th Texas.....	.....	5	5
Hood's.....	Anderson's.....	7th Georgia.....	.....	6	6
Hood's.....	Anderson's.....	8th Georgia.....	1	2	3
Hood's.....	Anderson's.....	9th Georgia.....	.....	1	1
			49	294	343
McLaw's.....	Cobb's.....	Phillip's Legion .....	18	56	69
McLaw's.....	Cobb's.....	16th Georgia.....	4	61	65
McLaw's.....	Cobb's.....	18th Georgia.....	.....	30	30
McLaw's.....	Cobb's.....	Staff .....	.....	3	3
McLaw's.....	Barksdale's.....	13th Mississippi.....	.....	23	23
McLaw's.....	Barksdale's.....	18th Mississippi.....	.....	18	18
McLaw's.....	Barksdale's.....	21st Mississippi.....	.....	11	11
McLaw's.....	Barksdale's.....	17th Mississippi.....	.....	13	13
McLaw's.....	Kershaw's.....	8th South Carolina.....	.....	7	7
McLaw's.....	Kershaw's.....	2d South Carolina.....	.....	40	40
McLaw's.....	Kershaw's.....	3d South Carolina.....	.....	119	119
McLaw's.....	Kershaw's.....	7th South Carolina.....	.....	35	35
McLaw's.....	Kershaw's.....	15th South Carolina.....	.....	47	47
McLaw's.....	Kershaw's.....	James' battery.....	.....	1	1
			17	464	481
Stuart's.....	W. H. F. Lee's.....	Washington Artillery.....	3	22	25
Stuart's.....	W. H. F. Lee's.....	15th Virginia cavalry.....	.....	6	6
Stuart's.....	W. H. F. Lee's.....	9th Virginia cavalry.....	.....	1	1
			3	35	38

SUMMARY OF CASUALTIES in the First Army Corps during the Recent Actions before Frederickburg.

433

COMMAND.	DECEMBER 11.			DECEMBER 12.			DECEMBER 13.			DECEMBER 14.			TOTAL.			
	Killed.	Wound.	Missing.	Killed.	Wound.	Missing.										
Officers.	Aggregates.	Battled.	Men.	Officers.	Battled.	Men.	Officers.	Battled.	Men.	Officers.	Battled.	Men.	Officers.	Battled.	Men.	
Anderson's division.	9	7	8	40	33	...	2	0	60	40	498	1	3	63	...	...
McLaw's division.*	2	10	141	64	244	...	6	2	2	2	42	1	47	...	...	...
Pickett's division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	7	178	12	261	...	...	...	
Hood's division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	77	39	49	...	529	...	...	
Hammond's division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	3	1	21	...	23	...	...	
Walton's bat'ry artillery.	...	...	...	2	2	...	1	1	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alexander's bat'ry artillery.	...	...	...	2	2	...	1	1	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand total....	2	36	17	174	6	114	339	2	18	20	16	194	85	1217	1	161229

\*One man killed on December 16th.

RECAPITULATION.

	KILLED.	WOUNDED.	MISSING.	AGGREGATE
December 11...	38	-	110	339
December 12...	2	18	...	20
December 13...	210	1,302	17	1,529
December 14...	1	6	...	5
December 15...	...	...	...	1
Grand total....	251	1,516	127	1,594

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS, December 29, 1862.

O. M. SORREL, Assistant Adjutant General.

# REPORT OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL JACKSON.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS, ARMY NORTHERN VIRGINIA, }  
January 31, 1863. }

Brigadier General R. H. CHILTON,  
*Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General, A. N. V.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor herewith to submit to you a report of the operations of my corps in the battle of Fredericksburg, on Saturday, the 13th of December last:

In pursuance of orders, Major General A. P. Hill moved his division at dawn on the morning of the 12th, from his encampment near Yerby's, and relieved Major General Hood, then posted near Hamilton's Crossing. At the same time Brigadier General Taliaferro, then in command of Jackson's division, moved from his encampment above Guineas Depot and took position in rear of Major General A. P. Hill.

Early on the morning of the 13th, Ewell's division, under Brigadier General J. A. Early, and Major General D. H. Hill, with his division, arrived, after a severe night's march from their respective encampments, in the vicinity of Buckner's Neck and Port Royal—the troops of Major General D. H. Hill being from fifteen to eighteen miles distant from the point to which they were ordered. On the morning of that day the troops were arranged as follows: Major General A. P. Hill occupied the front line, formed of two regiments of Field's brigade, commanded by Colonel Brockenbrough, and the brigades of Archer, Lane and Pender, (posted from right to left in the order named,) his right resting on the road leading from Hamilton's Crossing to the Port Royal road, and his left extending to within a short distance of Deep Run. These troops were partially concealed by the wood, near the edge of which they were posted. The remainder of Brockenbrough's command, consisting of the fortieth and fifty-fifth Virginia, was immediately in rear of Walker's batteries, and acting as a support to them. Of the other two brigades, Gregg's and Thomas's, of the same division, the first was in rear of the interval between Archer and Lane, and the second in rear of the interval between Lane and Pender. The divisions under Generals Early and Taliaferro formed the second line—Early being on the right. The division of Major General D. H. Hill, which was still further in rear, constituting the reserve. Upon the eminence immediately to the right, Lieutenant Colonel Walker (Major General A. P. Hill's chief of artillery) had in position fourteen guns, composed of the batteries of Pegram and McIntosh, with sections from the batteries of Crenshaw, Latham and Johnson, commanded respectively by Lieutenants Ellett, Potts and Clutter. On the left of the line and near the Bernard cabins, were posted twenty-one guns of the batteries of Captains Davidson, Raine, Caskie and Braxton, all under the immediate direction of Captain Davidson. To the right and some two

hundred yards in front of these, and beyond the railroad, were posted twelve guns, from the batteries of Captains Carpenter, Wooding and Braxton, under the direction of Captain Brockenbrough, General Taliaferro's chief of artillery; Carpenter's battery, commanded by Lieutenant McKendree, and Braxton's, by Lieutenant Marye. On my left was Major General Hood, of Longstreet's corps, and on my right and front, the cavalry, under command of Major General Stuart, with a battery, near the Port Royal road, under the direction of Major Pelham, of the Stuart horse artillery, aided, in the course of the day, by sections from the batteries of Captain Poague, (Lieutenant Graham commanding.) Captains Wilson, Smith, Garber, Dance, and the Louisiana Guards, of my corps, thrown into position so as to cross their fire with the guns of Lieutenant Colonel Walker, and designed to check the advance of the enemy in that direction. About ten o'clock, as the fog disappeared, the lines of the enemy, arranged in order of battle, were distinctly visible in the plain between us and the river, covering my front and extending far to the left towards Frederickburg. The force in front of me I supposed to number about fifty-five thousand. Pelham, with part of the Stuart horse artillery, was soon engaged with the artillery of the enemy, and a brisk and an animated contest was kept up for about an hour. Soon after Pelham, in obedience to orders, had withdrawn from his position on the Port Royal road, the enemy directed his artillery on the heights held by Lieutenant Colonel Walker, and upon the woods generally, occupied by our troops, evidently with a view of causing us to disclose whatever troops or artillery were there. Not eliciting any response, the enemy was seemingly satisfied that he would experience but little resistance to an effort to obtain possession of this hill. Accordingly, about eleven o'clock, he advanced by the flank, parallel to the Port Royal road, nearly to the road running from thence to Hamilton's Crossing, now unimpeded in his march, as Pelham was withdrawn. Facing to the front, he advanced in line of battle across the plain straight upon the position occupied by Walker. His batteries reserved their fire until the enemy's lines came within less than eight hundred yards, when the fourteen guns opened, pouring such a storm of shot and shell into his ranks as to cause him first to halt, then to waver, and, at last, seek shelter by flight. About one o'clock, the main attack was made by heavy and rapid discharges of artillery. Under the protection of this warm and well-directed fire, his infantry, in heavy force, advanced, seeking the partial protection of a piece of wood extending beyond the railroad. The batteries on the right played on their ranks with destructive effect. The advancing force was visibly staggered by our rapid and well-directed artillery; but, soon recovering from the shock, the Federal troops, consisting of the main body of Franklin's grand division, supported by a portion of Hooker's grand division, continued to press forward. Advancing within point blank range of our infantry, and thus exposed to the murderous fire of musketry and artillery, the struggle became fierce and sanguinary. They continued, however, still to press forward, and, before General A. P. Hill closed the interval which he had left between Archer and

Lane, it was penetrated, and, the enemy pressing forward in overwhelming numbers through that interval, turned Lane's right and Archer's left. Thus attacked in front and rear, the fourteenth Tennessee and nineteenth Georgia, of Archer's brigade, and the entire brigade of Lane, fell back; but not until after a brave and obstinate resistance. Notwithstanding the perilous situation in which Archer's brigade was placed, his right, changing front, continued to struggle with undaunted firmness, materially checking the advance of the enemy until reinforcements came to its support. The brigade of General Thomas, posted as before stated, moved gallantly forward, and, joined by the seventh and part of the eighteenth North Carolina, of Lane's brigade, gallantly drove back a Federal column which had broken through Lane's line. In the meantime, a large force of the enemy penetrated the wood in rear of the position occupied by the brigades of Lane and Archer, and came in contact with Gregg's brigade. Taken by surprise, Orr's rifles were thrown into confusion. It was in the act of rallying this regiment that Brigadier General Maxey Gregg fell, in front of the rifles, mortally wounded. General Gregg was a brave and accomplished officer, full of heroic sentiment and chivalrous honor. He had rendered valuable service in this great struggle for our freedom, and the country has much reason to deplore the loss sustained by his premature death. Colonel Hamilton, upon whom the command of that brigade now devolved, hastened to meet the emergencies of his position, and, with the four remaining regiments and one company of the Orr rifles, (Lieutenant Charles,) gave the enemy a warm reception.

The enemy was not long permitted to hold the advantage which he had thus gained. The second line came promptly to the support of the first. Lawton's brigade, commanded by Colonel Atkinson, subsequently by Colonel Evans, Trimble's brigade, commanded by Colonel R. F. Hoke, and Earley's brigade, commanded by Colonel Walker, (all under the command of Brigadier General Early,) and the forty-seventh and twenty-second Virginia regiments of Colonel Brockenbrough's command, were already rushing with impetuous valor to the support of the first line. In Taliaferro's command, his right regiment, the second Virginia, of Paxton's brigade, became engaged with part of the enemy, which, after a slight resistance, retreated. The combat in the wood was brief and decisive. The further advance of the enemy was checked. He was driven with great slaughter from the wood to the railroad; the two regiments of Brockenbrough's command, Archer, with the first Tennessee and fifth Alabama battalion, and the three brigades commanded by Colonels Hoke, Walker and Atkinson, pursuing the retreating Federals to the railroad, where they made a brief stand, when Hoke and Atkinson charged upon them with impetuosity, destroying many in the charge, and taking a large number of prisoners. Nor did they stop there; but, impelled by an ardor which reflects the highest credit on their courage and patriotism, this comparatively small force pressed the discomfitted foe in hot pursuit, until they appeared so far within range of his artillery and the fire of a large force of his infantry, as to make further pursuit an

act of rashness. In this gallant charge, Colonel Atkinson was severely wounded and fell into the hands of the enemy. Captain E. P. Lawton, assistant adjutant general of the brigade, though injured during the advance, by the fall of his horse, continued to press forward on foot, heroically encouraging the brigade, until he fell mortally wounded.

During the day, some of the guns under Colonel Walker becoming short of men and ammunition, and otherwise disabled from further service, were relieved by Captain Poague's battery with two twenty-pound Parrots. These two pieces actively engaged the enemy's artillery, and afterwards opened on the infantry. The exact range of the hill having been accurately obtained by much previous firing, the loss at this point was heavy. It is due to Captain Poague here to state that when, late on the evening previous, he received orders to move his battery, he was distant some sixteen miles from the battle-field, and the promptitude with which he responded to the order, by a fatiguing night's march, is worthy of notice. Some guns of Major General D. H. Hill's division were put in at this time on our right, under the direction of his chief of artillery, Major T. H. Carter, which were all well served. Later in the evening, Lieutenant Colonel Coleman brought up two howitzers, from Captain Dance's battery, and placed them on the left of Captain Poague's guns. About this time Lieutenant Colonel Coleman was severely wounded. On the extreme right, beyond the Massaponax, was a Whitworth gun, under the command of Captain Hardaway, of Major General D. H. Hill's division, which was well served.

On the extreme left, the day did not pass without some incidents worthy of notice. Early in the day, the enemy opened upon the left with sixteen guns, afterwards increased to twenty-four. The officers in command obeyed their orders, and, reserving their fire, the enemy advanced his skirmishers in heavy line upon the points occupied by the commands of Captains Davidson and Brockenbrough. They were soon driven off by canister; but the position of these batteries being thus disclosed to the enemy, a heavy artillery fire was directed upon them, which was replied to with animation and spirit. The ammunition of Captain Raine's battery proving defective, it was withdrawn, and Captain Latimer (acting chief of artillery of Ewell's division) was ordered to take a position still further to the front and left. These last pieces were admirably served, and though suffering severely from skirmishers and sharpshooters, drove them back, and, by the accuracy and rapidity of their fire, inflicted a severe loss upon the enemy. As the Federal infantry pressed forward upon our front, it was deemed advisable to withdraw the batteries of Captain Brockenbrough, placed in advance of the railroad, before the enemy should seize the point of woods to their right and rear, which they a short time afterwards penetrated—the withdrawal of the batteries being covered by Lieutenant Colonel Hill, of the seventh North Carolina. The brigade of General Pender was immediately in rear of the batteries of Captains Davidson and Latimer, and was without any protection from the enemy's artillery; and thus, notwithstanding the efficacy of the batteries act-

ing in conjunction with Major Cole, of the twenty-second North Carolina, in dispersing the cloud of skirmishers and sharpshooters that hung all day upon that part of the line, that brigade received much of the fire that was directed at these guns, and suffered severely. General Pender was himself wounded. The sixteenth North Carolina Colonel McElroy, which had been thrown out as a support to Latimer's battery, became warmly engaged with a brigade of the enemy, which had advanced up Deep Run, under cover, and, acting with two other North Carolina regiments, (the fifty-fourth and fifty-seventh,) of Laws' brigade, Hood's division, drove them back. Repulsed on the right, left and centre, the enemy soon after reformed his lines, and gave some indications of a purpose to renew the attack. I waited some time to receive it, but he making no forward movement, I determined, if prudent, to do so myself. The artillery of the enemy was so judiciously posted as to make an advance of our troops across the plain very hazardous; yet it was so promising of good results, if successfully executed, as to induce me to make preparations for the attempt. In order to guard against disaster, the infantry was to be preceded by artillery, and the movement postponed until late in the evening, so that if compelled to retire, it would be under the cover of night. Owing to unexpected delay, the movement could not be gotten ready until late in the evening. The first gun had hardly moved forward from the wood a hundred yards, when the enemy's artillery reopened, and so completely swept our front, as to satisfy me that the proposed movement should be abandoned.

The next day, (14th,) the divisions under the command of Brigadier Generals Early and Taliaferro formed the first line; that of Major General D. H. Hill the second, and the division of Major General A. P. Hill the reserve. The enemy continued in our front all day, apparently awaiting an attack from us. During the night, our lines were again changed so as to place the division of Major General D. H. Hill in the front line, Major General A. P. Hill in the second, and the divisions commanded by Brigadier Generals Early and Taliaferro the reserve.

On the 15th, the enemy still remained in our front, and, in the evening of that day, sent in a flag of truce requesting a cessation of hostilities between his left and our right wing, for the purpose of removing his wounded from the field, which, under previous instructions from the commanding General, was granted. Our troops patiently remained in position on that, as they had done the previous day, • eagerly awaiting another attack from the enemy, and such was the desire to occupy the front line, when such an attack should be made, that the division of Major General D. H. Hill sent in a written request to be permitted to remain in the front line until next day. But our brave troops were disappointed in the expectation of another attack. For whilst they patiently waited during the night of the 15th, in the hope of another encounter on the following day, and of visiting upon the invaders of their sacred homes and firesides a just retribution for the outrages of this most unprovoked and unchristian

war, the enemy hurriedly and silently, during that night, made good his retreat by recrossing the river.

For further details of the operations of my corps in the battle, I respectfully refer you to the reports of the division, brigade and regimental commanders, who participated in the engagement, also to the reports of Colonel Crutchfield, my chief of artillery, Lieutenant Colonel Walker, Colonel Brown, of the reserve artillery, and Captain Latimer, detailing the operations of the artillery. I refer you also to the same source of information for the names of many officers who distinguished themselves in this battle, and, by their good conduct, specially merit the approbation of the Government and of the country.

I herewith forward to you a list of the casualties of this corps on the 13th December, from which it will appear that twenty-six officers were killed, and one hundred and ninety-five wounded. Three hundred and eighteen enlisted men killed, and two thousand three hundred and fifty wounded; eighteen officers and five hundred and eight enlisted men missing, making a total loss in this corps of three thousand four hundred and fifteen. Nearly all who are reported as missing were taken prisoners in the fight. By the official report of Major Bridgford, provost marshal of the corps, herewith submitted, it appears that we captured five hundred and twenty-one prisoners, of whom eleven were officers. The report of Major Bridgford exhibits a gratifying statement of the small number who straggled from the ranks during the last action, and affords further evidence of the improving discipline and spirit of the army.

The report of Major Bier, my chief of ordnance, shows that we captured four thousand four hundred and forty-six small arms.

My medical director, Dr. Hunter McGuire, gave special and skillful attention to the wounded.

Major J. A. Harman, chief quartermaster; Major W. J. Hawks, chief commissary; and Major G. H. Bier, chief of ordnance, discharged their respective duties well.

During the action, I received valuable assistance in transmitting orders, and discharging other duties, from the following members of my staff:

Colonel S. Crutchfield, chief of artillery.

Colonel A. Smeade, inspector general.

Captain A. S. Pendleton, assistant adjutant general.

Captain J. K. Boswell, chief of engineers.

First Lieutenant J. G. Morrison, aid-de-camp.

First Lieutenant J. P. Smith, aid-de-camp.

Second Lieutenant W. Williamson, engineer department.

I trust that the victory of Fredericksburg, with which God has blessed our cause, will continue to be gratefully remembered.

I am, General, your obedient servant,

T. J. JACKSON,

*Lieutenant General.*

*LIST OF CASUALTIES in Second Army Corps, Army Northern Virginia, in the Battles before Fredericksburg, December, 1862:*

DIVISION.	BRIGADE.	REGIMENT.	KILLED	WOUNDED	TOTAL.
A. P. Hill's.....	Field's.....	7th Virginia.....	7	38	45
"	"	2d Virginia battalion.....	2	25	27
"	"	5th Virginia.....	1	10	11
"	Gregg's.....	1st South Carolina.....	15	58	73
"	"	2d South Carolina.....	1	7	8
"	"	1st South Carolina.....	8	52	55
"	"	4th South Carolina.....	.....	28	28
"	"	Orr's Regt.....	21	149	170
"	Thomas'.....	14th Georgia.....	22	110	132
"	"	35th Georgia.....	7	82	89
"	"	45th Georgia.....	5	43	48
"	"	49th Georgia.....	8	53	61
"	Lane's.....	7th North Carolina.....	5	81	86
"	"	28th North Carolina.....	16	49	65
"	"	37th North Carolina.....	17	76	93
"	"	18th North Carolina.....	13	77	90
"	"	33d North Carolina.....	9	82	41
"	Archer's.....	7th Tennessee.....	5	33	38
"	"	1st Tennessee.....	5	52	57
"	"	14th Tennessee.....	4	55	59
"	"	19th Georgia.....	15	89	94
"	"	5th Alabama battalion.....	3	18	21
"	Pender's.....	16th North Carolina.....	6	48	54
"	"	34th North Carolina.....	2	17	19
"	"	13th North Carolina.....	7	30	37
"	"	24th North Carolina.....	1	44	45
"	"	38th North Carolina.....	.....	14	14
	Artillery.....	Seven Batteries.....	11	88	99
			211	1,408	1,619
D. H. Hill's.....	Rodes'.....	5th Alabama.....		1	1
"	"	6th Alabama.....	1	1	2
"	"	29th Alabama.....		4	4
"	"	3d Alabama.....	1	2	3
"	Iverson's.....	20th North Carolina.....		3	3
"	"	23d North Carolina.....		1	1
"	"	12th North Carolina.....		5	5
"	"	5th North Carolina.....	1	3	4
"	Ripley's.....	4th Georgia.....	1	6	7
"	"	1st North Carolina.....		15	15
"	"	3d North Carolina.....		8	3
"	"	44th Georgia.....	1	1	2
"	Colquitt's.....	6th Georgia.....		3	3
"	"	23d Georgia.....		2	2
"	"	27th Georgia.....		2	2
"	"	28th Georgia.....		8	8
"	Anderson's.....	2d North Carolina.....	4	17	21
"	"	4th North Carolina.....	4	21	25
"	"	30th North Carolina.....		9	9
"	"	14th North Carolina.....		4	4
"	Artillery.....	Jeff. Davis Artillery.....	1	2	4
"	"	Pace's Battery.....	2	3	5
"	"	Fry's Battery.....	1	2	3
"	Colonel Brown's.....	Artillery regiment.....	9	21	30
			26	146	172
Ewell's.....	Hays'.....	9th Louisiana.....	5	7	12
"	"	8th Louisiana.....		6	6
"	"	7th Louisiana.....		7	7
"	"	6th Louisiana.....		12	12
"	"	5th Louisiana.....		8	8
"	"	Louisiana Guard Art'y.....	1	1	2
"	Trimble's.....	Carrington's Battery.....		1	1
"	"	21st North Carolina.....		24	24
"	"	21st Georgia.....	3	24	27
"	"	15th Alabama.....	1	84	85
"	"	12th Georgia.....	4	16	20
"	Early's.....	13th Virginia.....	3	19	22
"	"	25th Virginia.....	1	13	14
"	"	31st Virginia.....	2	14	16
"	"	44th Virginia.....	2	13	15
"	"	49th Virginia.....	6	46	52
Carried forward.....			28	24	273

*LIST OF CASUALTIES in Second Corps—Continued.*

DIVISION.	BRIGADE.	REGIMENT.	KILLED	WOUNDED	TOTAL.
Brought forward...					
Ewell's.....	Early's.....	52d Virginia.....	23	245	273
"	"	58th Virginia.....	3	13	13
"	Lawton's.....	31st Georgia.....	15	65	76
"	"	61st Georgia.....	17	83	100
"	"	70th Georgia.....	6	72	78
"	"	13th Georgia.....	2	12	14
"	"	26th Georgia.....	5	48	53
"	"	33th Georgia.....	10	91	101
			86	623	719
Taliaferro's.....	Faxton's.....	21 Virginia.....	2	19	21
"	"	5th Virginia.....		11	11
"	"	4th Virginia.....		12	12
"	Jones'.....	Carpenter's Battery.....	1	25	26
"	"	21st Virginia.....		4	4
"	"	42d Virginia.....	1	25	26
"	"	48th Virginia.....		7	7
"	"	Raines' Battery.....		1	1
"	3d, Col. Warren....	Cookie's Battery.....		3	3
"	"	43d Alabama.....		5	5
"	"	23d Virginia.....		1	1
"	"	37th Virginia.....		3	3
"	4th, Col. Pendleton...	Wooding's Battery.....		13	13
"	"	1st Louisiana.....		8	8
"	"	2d Louisiana.....		7	7
"	"	10th Louisiana.....		7	7
"	"	14th Louisiana.....		5	5
"	"	35th Louisiana.....	1	4	5
		Lusk's Battery.....		7	7
			5	167	172

## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL R. H. ANDERSON.

HEADQUARTERS ANDERSON'S DIVISION,  
Near Fredericksburg, Va., Junuary 3, 1863. }

To Major G. MOXLEY SORREL,

*A. A. General, Headquarters First Army Corps:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my division, in the battle of Fredericksburg:

Upon the signal being given, on the morning of the 11th of December, the troops were placed rapidly in position, in rear of the line of field works and batteries, extending from Hazel Run, on the right, to the Waterworks dam on the left, in the following order: Featherston's, Perry's, Mahone's, Wright's and Wilcox's brigades.

In the afternoon of the 11th, Ransom's division having been placed between Hazel Run and the plank road, Featherston's brigade was moved to the left of that road. About dark General Ransom recrossed Hazel Run, and Featherston was replaced in his former position.

Detachments of one regiment from each brigade were thrown in front of the batteries, and strong pickets were pushed forward towards the town and along the canal.

Early on the 12th, General Ransom resumed his former place behind Hazel Run and the plank road, and Featherston's brigade was again drawn to the left of the road. This position of the brigades, in the order above mentioned, was maintained until Thursday the 17th of December, when the division was withdrawn, and the troops returned to their camps. Previous to the commencement of the engagement there were two regiments, the third Georgia and eighth Florida, of Wright's and Perry's brigades, on duty in and near Fredericksburg. These regiments had been placed under the orders of Brigadier General Barksdale, commanding in the town, and were engaged with the enemy when he was laying his bridges, and preparing to cross the river. The third Georgia met with but very slight loss. The eighth Florida suffered a loss of eighty-seven killed, wounded and missing. The missing (43) were undoubtedly captured. The detachments and pickets which were advanced the first night in front of the batteries and along the canal, continued to occupy their posts, and they suffered some loss.

The whole loss of the division was one hundred and fifty-eight killed, wounded and missing. The commanders of batteries, Captains Marion, Huger and Lewis, and Lieutenant Peet, commanding Grandy's battery, merit especial notice for their skill, courage and good management throughout the five days. Their batteries were subjected to a very heavy fire from those of the enemy. None of their shot, however, were spent in an artillery duel; but were reserved for those opportunities which the advancing and retiring columns of the enemy gave them.

It gives me pleasure to say that the most commendable spirit was

exhibited by the officers and soldiers of the whole division.. Their patient endurance of the exposure to which they were subjected, gave assurance of good conduct and gallant deeds, had an opportunity been presented. Featherston's and Perry's brigades lay four days and nights in an open field without shelter and without fire. It is due to Brigadier General Mahone to say that he discovered and pointed out the important position for a battery, which enfiladed the slope upon which the enemy formed his battalions before and after his attacks upon Marye's Hill, and that he rendered very efficient service, assisting in the construction of the battery which drove them from that place of shelter. I beg leave to mention also Brigadier General Cadmus M. Wilcox, and to ask attention to his long-continued and uniformly meritorious conduct in his present grade. I have witnessed his courage, zeal and ability, and have received most efficient co-operation from him, in the battles of Williamsburg, Seven Pines, Gaines' Mill, Frazier's Farm, Second Manassas and Fredericksburg. I earnestly recommend his promotion: Mr. Jett, an engineer attached to my division, rendered good service in the erection of field works, making and repairing roads, digging rifle-pits and trenches, and such like work. The reports of the commanders of brigades are herewith submitted.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

R. H. ANDERSON,  
*Major General commanding Division.*

## REPORT MAJOR GENERAL McLAWS.

HEADQUARTER'S DIVISION,  
Camp near Fredericksburg, December 30, 1862. }

Major SORREL,

*Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: My division occupied the front line of defence from Hazel river along the ridge of hills to the right and through the point of woods extending into Mr. Alfred Bernard's field, one brigade being in reserve. The brigades on the right had an extended rifle-pit at the foot of the main ridge from the left of the telegraph road to a private road near Mr. Howison's barn. The next brigade had rifle-pits along the foot of the hills in front of its position and others on the crest of the hills. The right brigade constructed rifle-pits and breast-works of logs, through the woods, with abattis in front of them. The crests of the hills were occupied by the batteries of Captain Read, one ten-pounder Parrott, one twelve-pounder howitzer, one three-inch rifle; Captain Manly's battery, one three-inch rifle, two twelve-pounder howitzers; Captain Ells, one thirty-pounder Parrott; Captain Macon, two ten-pounder Parrott's and two six pounders; Cooper's, three ten-pounder Parrott's; Carlton's, two ten pounder Parrott's; Eubank's, one three-inch rifle; McCarthy's, two, three-inch rifles; Dearing, one ten-pounder Parrott; Ross, three ten-pounder Parrott's, and, in addition, there were a number of smooth bore pieces placed along the hills, to be used should the enemy advance near enough for their effectual range. One brigade was constantly on duty in the city to guard the town and defend the river crossings as far down as one-fourth of a mile below Deep Run creek. Two regiments from General Anderson's division picketed the river bank above the town, reporting to the Brigadier General in charge of the brigade on duty in the city. The orders were that two guns should be fired from one of my batteries in a central position, which would be the signal that the enemy was attempting to cross. These were the positions of my command and the orders governing them up to the 10th instant. On that day, the brigade of General Barksdale, composed of Mississippi troops, was on duty in the city. About two o'clock, A. M., on the 11th, General Barksdale sent me word that the movements of the enemy indicated they were preparing to lay down their pontoon bridges, and his men were getting into position to defend the crossing. About half past four he notified me that the bridges were being placed, and he would open fire so soon as the working parties came in good range of his rifles. I gave the order, and the signal guns were fired about five o'clock, A. M. I had been notified from your headquarters the evening previous (the 10th instant) to have all the batteries harnessed up at daylight, on the 11th instant, and I had given orders that my whole command should be under arms at the same time. General Barksdale kept his men quiet and concealed until the

bridges were so advanced that the working parties were in easy range, when he opened fire with such effect that the bridges were abandoned at once. Nine separate and desperate attempts were made to complete the bridges, under fire of their sharpshooters and guns on the opposite banks, but every attempt being attended with such severe loss, from our men posted in rifle-pits, in the cellars of houses along the banks, and from behind whatever offered concealment, that the enemy abandoned his attempts for the time and opened a terrific fire from their numerous batteries constructed along the hills just above the river. The fire was so severe that the men could not use their rifles, and the different places occupied by them becoming untenable, the troops were withdrawn from the river bank back to Caroline street, at half past four o'clock, P. M.. The enemy then crossed in boats, and, completing their bridges, passed over in force and advanced into the town. The seventeenth Mississippi (Colonel Fizer) and ten sharpshooters from Colonel Carter's regiment (the thirteenth) and three companies of the eighteenth Mississippi regiment, (Lieutenant Colonel Luse,) under Lieutenant Radlif, were all the troops that were actually engaged in defending the crossings in front of the city. More troops were offered; but the positions were such that but the number already there could be employed. As the enemy advanced into the town our troops fell back to Princess Ann street, and, as the enemy came up, they were driven back with loss. This street fighting continued until seven, P. M., when I ordered General Barksdale to fall back and take position along and behind the stone wall below Marye's Hill, where it was relieved by the brigade of Brigadier General Thomas R. R. Cobb, and retired to their position on the right of my line of defence in the woods of Mr. Bernard. Lieutenant Colonel Luse, with his regiment, (the eighteenth Mississippi,) who occupied the river bank below the town, drove back the enemy in their first attempt to cross the river, and kept them in check until about half past three o'clock, P. M., when two regiments, the sixteenth Georgia (Colonel Bryan) and fifteenth South Carolina (Colonel DeSaussure) were sent to his support; it was then deemed advisable and the whole force was withdrawn to the river road, where they remained until daylight the next day, when they rejoined their brigades, excepting the sixteenth Georgia, which retook its position in the general line of defence. These regiments performed their duties under a severe and destructive fire from the enemy's guns, posted along the hills just above the river on the opposite side. Early on the morning of the 11th, a battalion of the eighth Florida regiment, numbering about one hundred and fifty men was put in position to the left of Colonel Fizer, and in easy range of the enemy above the upper bridge, then being rapidly constructed by them. This battalion was commanded by Captain Long, and, while under his direction, it acted gallantly and did good service—Captain Long proving himself a gallant and efficient officer; but he was severely wounded about eleven o'clock, A. M., and the battalion then rendered but little assistance. I call your attention to the special report of Lieutenant Colonel Fizer on the subject, and to Captain Govan, in relation to the conduct of three companies of the same regiment, which were

on duty with the right of Colonel Fizer's regiment, and also to the endorsement of Colonel Humphries, on the special report of Captain Govan. The brigade of General Barksdale, I consider, did their whole duty, and in a manner highly creditable to every officer and man engaged in the fight. An examination of the positions they held shows that no troops could have behaved more gallantly.

On the night of the eleventh instant, the eighteenth and twenty-fourth Georgia regiments and Philips' Georgia legion, of Cobb's brigade, relieved General Barksdale's command behind the stone wall at the foot of Marye's Hill. Philips' legion on the left, the twenty-fourth Georgia in the centre, and eighteenth Georgia regiment on the right, occupying the entire front under the hill. During that night, the scouts took fifteen prisoners. On the 12th inst., close and heavy skirmishing was kept up, but no real attack was made. On the 13th, skirmishing commenced at early dawn, the enemy shelling in that direction until about eleven o'clock, when the advance of the enemy drove in our pickets, and his column approached the left of the line by the telegraph road and deployed to our right, planting three stands of colors along our front; before their deployment was completed, our fire had so thinned their ranks that the survivors retreated, leaving their colors planted in the first position. Soon another column, heavier than the first, advanced to the colors; but were driven back with great slaughter. They were met, on retiring, by reinforcements, and advanced again; but were again repulsed with increased loss.

About one o'clock, P. M., General Kershaw was directed to send two regiments from his brigade to the support of General Cobb, who reported that he was getting short of ammunition. The sixteenth Georgia regiment was sent forward at the same time. Not long after this, General Kershaw was directed to take his whole brigade. Just as his command was moving, he was ordered to hasten forward in person, and assume command of the position under Marye's Hill, as General Cobb had been wounded and disabled. The South Carolina regiments were posted, the second and eighth (Colonel Kennedy and Captain Stockburn commanding) in the road, doubling on Philips' legion, (Colonel Cook,) and the twenty-fourth Georgia, (Colonel McMillan,) the third and seventh South Carolina (Colonel Nance and Lieutenant Colonel Bland) on the hill to the left of Marye's house; the seventh was afterwards moved (on a call from the fifteenth North Carolina regiment for reinforcement) to the right and front of Marye's house, the three left companies being on the left of the house, the fifteenth South Carolina (Colonel De Saussure) in reserve at the cemetery; the third battalion (Lieutenant Colonel Rice) was posted at Howison's mill to resist any attack that might have been made up Hazel Run. The eighth and seventh regiments arrived in time to assist in repelling a heavy assault made on the left at quarter to three, P. M. The third and seventh regiments suffered severely while getting into position, especially the former. Colonel Nance, Lieutenant Colonel Rutherford, Major Moffit, Captains Todd, Summers and Nance, were shot down in succession. Captain Summers killed, the others more or less dangerously wounded, leaving the regiment under the com-

mand of Captain John K. G. Nance, assisted by Lieutenant Doby, aid-de-camp of General Kershaw. Colonel Nance, although badly wounded, declined being removed at the time, and continued to encourage and direct his men, and, after he was removed back to Marye's house, ordered that his regiment take a new position, where the men would be less exposed, and sent directions to have them resupplied with ammunition. In the meantime, the enemy deployed in a ravine, which was between us and the city, and distant about three or four hundred yards from the stone wall, and advanced with fresh columns to the attack, at intervals of not more than fifteen minutes; but they were repulsed with ease, and driven back with much loss, on every occasion. This continued until about half past four, P. M., when the enemy ceased in their assaults for a time, and posting some artillery in front of the town on the left of the telegraph road, opened on our position, doing but little damage. The batteries of Colonel Walton, on Marye's Hill, were at this time silent, having exhausted their ammunition, and they were being relieved by others from Colonel Alexander's battalion. Taking advantage of the hill, the fifteenth South Carolina (Colonel De Saussure) was brought forward from the cemetery, and posted behind the stone wall, supporting the second South Carolina regiment. The enemy, in the meanwhile, formed a strong column of attack, and advanced under cover of their own artillery, and, no longer impeded by ours, came forward along our whole front, in the most determined manner; but they were repulsed at all points. The firing ceased as night came on, and about seven o'clock our pickets and those of the enemy were posted within a short distance of each other.

About six, P. M., the third South Carolina regiment was brought from the hill, and posted on the left of Philips' Georgia legion, where it was relieved by General Kemper, with a portion of his brigade, about seven, P. M., and was then ordered in reserve by General Kershaw, because of its previous heavy loss.

The body of one man, believed to be an officer, was found within about thirty yards of the stone wall, and other single bodies were scattered at increased distances, until the main mass of the dead lay thickly strewn over the ground at something over one hundred yards off, and extending to the ravine, commencing at the point where our men would allow the enemy's column to approach before opening fire, and beyond which no organized body of men was able to pass.

On the 14th, the enemy were in position behind the declivities in front, but the operations on both sides were confined to skirmishing of sharpshooters.

On the 15th it was discovered that the enemy had constructed rifle-pits on the edge of the ravine; but nothing of interest occurred during the day. Cobb's brigade was relieved by that of General Semmes on the night of that day, against the wishes, however, of Colonel McMillan, commanding Cobb's brigade, who objected to relinquishing such an honorable position. On the 16th, Tuesday morning, as the fog lifted, it was discovered that the enemy's pickets were withdrawn, and scouts, being sent out, reported that the enemy had

retired across the river, removing their bridges. The town was reoccupied by two regiments from Kershaw's brigade, and a number of prisoners, arms, &c., were taken.

Captain Cuthbert, of the second South Carolina regiment, with his company of sharpshooters, was thrown out on the edge of Hazel Run, and did good service in annoying the flank of the enemy as their columns advanced to the attack. His loss was considerable.

When General Kershaw's brigade was sent to the front, its place along the main line of defence was occupied by the brigade of Brigadier General Jenkins, a regiment from which occupied the right flank of the troops at the foot of Marye's Hill, along Hazel Run, and was of essential service.

The Lieutenant General was, however, overlooking the movements of all, and every order was issued under his supervision. The presence of himself and the General-in-Chief inspired the troops and rendered them invincible. The very great enthusiasm and ardent desire for the enemy to advance which existed and was evident among all, officers and men, could not be surpassed. And, when it was discovered, on the 16th, that the enemy had retired, there was an universal expression of disappointment.

The artillery along the heights, under the supervision of Colonel H. C. Cabell, chief of artillery, and his subordinate, Major Hamilton, opened fire on the enemy's left flank whenever the column advanced, with such effect as to always force them to retire in disorder, or to incline to their right under shelter of ravines and rising ground; forced one of the enemy's batteries to retire which had come forward on the right, and was of material assistance in checking the advance of their troops, which were threatening the centre. I refer you to the special report of Colonel Cabell in reference to the operations of the artillery.

The country and the army have to mourn the loss of Brigadier General Thomas R. R. Cobb, who fell while in position with his brigade, and was borne from the field while his men were repulsing the first assaults of the enemy. He had but lately been promoted to a brigade, and his devotion to his duties, his aptitude for the profession of arms, and his control over his men, I have never seen surpassed. Our country has lost a pure and able defender of her rights, both in the council and the field.

My aid-de-camp, Captain H. L. King, was killed on Marye's Hill, pierced with five balls, while conveying an order to Brigadier General Cobb. He was a brave and accomplished officer and gentleman, and had already distinguished himself during the operations in front of Fredericksburg, as he had done in all the other engagements when on duty.

Lieutenant T. S. B. Tucker, my other aid-de-camp, was badly wounded, while bearing one of my orders. He has always been noted for his daring and gallantry.

The services of my adjutant general, Major James M. Goggin, were important and distinguished, as they have been always.

My thanks are due to the other members of my staff, Major McLaws

and Major Edwards, for their assistance; to Lieutenant Edwards, ordnance officer, who was active and efficient in supplying ammunition to the troops; and to Lieutenant Campbell, of the engineers, who had been engaged day and night, frequently all night, in strengthening the different positions, and on all occasions was very devoted and prompt in the discharge of his duties.

Colonel McMillan, of the twenty-fourth Georgia, who succeeded to the command of the brigade when General Cobb was disabled, during the first assaults of the enemy on Marye's Hill, behaved with distinguished gallantry and coolness.

General Barksdale commanded his fine brigade as it should have been commanded, and added new laurels to those gained on every other previous battle-field.

I call attention to the conduct of General Kershaw, who, after the fall of General Cobb, commanded the troops about Marye's Hill, composed of his own brigade and that of General Cobb. He possesses military talents of a high order, and unites with them that self-possession and daring gallantry which endears him to his command, and inspires a confidence which but increases as the danger grows more imminent.

My inspector general, Major Costin, was particularly active and distinguished in leading troops into position and carrying orders, frequently under the hottest fire, and for his close attention to all his duties.

The brigade of General Semmes was not actually engaged; but, under his supervision, the position he commanded was strongly fortified, and his men were well prepared and eager for the fight under his leadership.

Surgeon Gilmon, chief surgeon of the division, had his field hospital in readiness, and his arrangements were so complete that there was no detention or unnecessary suffering of the wounded, and those who could not remain in camp were sent at once to the hospitals in Richmond.

The loss of killed, wounded and missing, in my command, was as follows:

COMMAND.	KILLED.	WOUNDED.	MISSING.	TOTAL.	REMARKS.
Kershaw's brigade.....	39	333	1	373	One missing, supposed to have been killed while the regiment was on picket.
Barksdale's brigade...	29	151	62	242	
Cobb's brigade.....	32	198	4	234	
Semmes' brigade.....	.....	4	.....	4	
Grand total.....	100	686	67	853	

I enclose reports of the several brigade commanders, with those of

their respective regimental and battalion commanders, excepting General Barksdale, who, receiving a leave of absence, went away without rendering his report; those of his regimental commanders are, however, enclosed.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS, Major General.

## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL RANSOM.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION,  
Camp near Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 20, 1862. }

Major G. M. SORREL,

*Assistant Adjutant General, First Corps, A. N. V.:*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of my division during the several days' operations before Fredericksburg, commencing on the 11th instant:

On the morning of that day the division took position about six hundred yards in rear of our batteries, which were upon Marye's and Willis' Hills, and at the time occupied by the Washington artillery. About noon, it was withdrawn to the Telegraph road, a little in rear of where General Longstreet had his headquarters during the day. At nine o'clock, P. M., it retook the position of the morning, Cooke's brigade being advanced to within two hundred yards of our batteries, and the twenty-fourth North Carolina, of my brigade, was placed in a ditch on the left, and in the prolongation of Cobb's brigade, which occupied the Telegraph road in front of Marye's and Willis' hills. The left of the twenty-fourth rested on the plank road. My batteries remained in rear of the division.

On the 12th there was no change, except the placing of three long range guns from Cooper's battery near Howison's house on the right of the Telegraph road. During these two days occasional shells from the enemy's guns burst among and near the troops, but there were few or no injuries.

About half past eleven o'clock, A. M., on the 13th, large numbers of skirmishers were thrown out from the town by the enemy, and it soon became evident that an effort would be made to take our batteries, which I was supporting. Cooke's brigade was ordered to occupy the crest of Marye's and Willis' hills, which was done in fine style. By this time the enemy backed his skirmishers with a compact line, and advanced towards the hills; but the Washington artillery and a well directed fire from Cobbs' and Cooke's brigades drove them quickly back to their shelter in the town. But a few minutes elapsed before another line was formed by the enemy, he all the while keeping up a brisk fire with sharpshooters. This line advanced with the utmost determination, and some few of them got within fifty yards of our line, but the whole were forced to retire in wild confusion before the telling fire of our small arms at such short range.

During this attack, two of Cooke's regiments, being badly exposed, (for there were then no rifle-pits on the hills,) were thrown into the road with Cobb's brigade. For some few minutes there was a cessation of fire; but we were not kept long in expectancy. The enemy now seemed determined to reach our position, and formed, apparently,

a triple line. Observing this movement on his part, I brought up the three regiments of my brigade to within one hundred yards of the crest of the hills, and pushed forward the twenty-fifth North Carolina volunteers to the crest. The enemy, almost massed, moved to the charge heroically, and met the withering fire of our artillery and small arms with wonderful staunchness. On they came to within less than one hundred and fifty paces of our line; but nothing could live before the sheet of lead that was hurled at them from this distance. They momentarily wavered, broke and rushed headlong from the field. A few, however, more resolute than the rest, lingered under cover of some fences and houses, and annoyed us with a scattering, but well directed fire. The twenty-fifth North Carolina volunteers reached the crest of the hill just in time to pour into the enemy a few volleys at most deadly range, and then took position shoulder to shoulder with Cobb's and Cooke's men in the road.

During this attack, the gallant Brigadier General Cobb was mortally wounded, and almost at the same instant Brigadier General Cooke was wounded and taken from the field. Colonel Hall, forty-sixth North Carolina volunteers, succeeded to the command of his brigade. Nothing daunted by the fearful punishment he had received, the enemy brought out fresh and increased numbers of troops. Fearing lest he might, by mere force of numbers, pass over our line, I determined to meet him with every man at my disposal, and started in person to place the remaining two regiments of my brigade. Just at this instant, Brigadier General Kershaw dashed, on horseback, at the head of one of his regiments up the new road leading from the Telegraph road, and near the mill, and led it into the fight immediately at Marye's house. A second regiment from his brigade followed and took position in rear of and near the grave-yard on Willis' hill, and remained there. I now advanced my regiments and placed one a few yards in rear of Marye's house, and the other on its right and a little more retired. With his increased numbers the enemy moved forward. Our men held their fire until it would be fatally effective; meantime, our artillery was spreading fearful havoc among the enemy's ranks. Still he advanced and received the destructive fire of our line; even more resolute than before, he seemed determined, madly, to press on; but his efforts could avail nothing. At length, broken and seemingly dismayed, the whole mass turned and fled to the very centre of the town. At this time, I sent my adjutant general to the road to ascertain the condition of the troops and the amount of ammunition on hand. His report was truly gratifying, representing the men in highest spirits, and abundance of ammunition. I had ordered Cobb's brigade to be supplied from my wagons.

The afternoon was now nearly spent, and it appeared that the enemy would not again renew his attempts to carry our position. Again, however, an effort, more feeble than those which had preceded, was made to push his troops over the bodies of the now numerous slain. The sun was down, and darkness was fast hiding the enemy from view, and it was reasonable to suppose there would be no further movement, at least, towards the point we held; but the frequent and determined

assaults he had made would not permit me to despise either his courage or his hardihood, and thinking that, as a last alternative, he might resort to the bayonet under cover of darkness, I massed my little command so as to meet such an attack with all the power we were capable of exerting. Instead, however, of a charge with the bayonet, just after dark he opened a tremendous fire of small arms, and at short range, upon my whole line. This last desperate and maddened attack met the same fate which had befallen those which preceded, and his hosts were sent, actually howling, back to their beaten comrades in the town. A short time before the last attack, Brigadier General Kemper had reported to me with his brigade. With two of his regiments I relieved the twenty-fourth North Carolina volunteers, which had been in the ditch two days, and placed the others in close supporting distance at the crest of the hill.

During the whole time the enemy's artillery had not ceased to play upon us, but our batteries took no notice of it, reserving their fire and using it against the enemy's infantry, as it would form and advance, with extraordinary effect. Thus ended the fighting in front of Fredericksburg.

By ten o'clock, P. M., General Kershaw had put the whole of his brigade in the road, and sent me word he could hold it. I was satisfied no further attempt would be made by the enemy before daylight, and withdrew my division two hundred yards, and permitted it to rest. At this time of night, I received orders to send a battery of long-range guns to Major Garnett. The three guns of Cooper's, at Howison's house, were sent, and they replaced by a like number from Branch's battery.

Until about four, P. M., on the 13th, the Washington artillery had served in the batteries, when it was relieved by Colonel Alexander's battalion, and, during the night, I replaced five of his guns with twelve-pounder howitzers from my batteries. During the day, only three of my guns were in action, and those were at the Howison house. I am informed by the report of the captain that they did good service, both in the direction of Fredericksburg and more to the right.

On the 14th, little of moment occurred. The enemy annoyed us by an unceasing fire from sharpshooters, but did little injury. Early on that night, I was directed to return Kemper's brigade to General Pickett. It was replaced by my own. Before daylight, orders came to relieve Jenkins' brigade, on the right of the telegraph road, which I had now with my own, and the latter was replaced by Cooke's and one regiment from Featherston's, which was immediately on my left.

Late in the afternoon of the 15th, large numbers of infantry were seen collecting in the town, and the sharpshooters again began to be troublesome. Colonel Alexander and Lieutenant Branch, the latter having charge of a twelve-pounder howitzer and a Napoleon which Colonel A. had sent me, by a few well directed shells dispersed the infantry in the town and dislodged the sharpshooters.

About daylight on the morning of the 16th, Brigadier General Jenkins, with his brigade, reported to me, and relieved Cooke's.

Too high commendation cannot be bestowed upon the troops under

my command, and those of other corps, who came under my observation, and I trust it will not be out of place to mention some, at least, of the latter. The unwavering firmness evinced throughout, by all, raises them to the highest pitch of admiration.

The field, on the 13th, presented the unprecedeted spectacle of a fierce battle raging and not a straggler from the ranks.

Brigadier General Cooke was wounded early in the action, but handled his troops well.

Brigadier General Kemper came upon the field late, but in the handsomest style, under a galling fire, moved his command into position with the greatest alacrity and steadiness, and, during this time, lost a few killed and quite a number wounded.

While I do not disparage any, I cannot fail to mention the splendid and dashing action of the twenty-fifth North Carolina volunteers, Lieutenant Colonel Bryson commanding, in going into battle.

Though no part of my command, I will not pass over the already famous Washington artillery. Its gallantry and efficiency are above praise.

Colonel Alexander, of the artillery, brought in his battalion admirably, and relieved the Washington artillery under a hot fire.

I regret that I could not witness the part taken by the long-range guns of my batteries, but, from the commanders' reports, they did good service, both in the direction of Fredericksburg and more to the right of our lines. Lieutenant Branch, in charge of the two pieces above mentioned, handled them beautifully.

Lieutenant and Adjutant Cooke, twenty-fourth North Carolina volunteers, was severely wounded. I have before witnessed his conduct, and no one more highly merits promotion.

The valuable assistance and daring gallantry of my assistant adjutant general, Captain Thomas Rowland, and volunteer aid, Dr. H. I. Davis, deserve my warmest commendation. They, three times each during the day, traversed the entire front of my line, descending and returning from the road, thus six times running the gauntlet of a most fearful fire.

I am much indebted to Lieutenant E. A. Thorn, ordnance officer for division, for his devotion and energy. Whatever might have been the duration of the battle, so long as ammunition could have been had, I felt sure that my troops would be supplied. After the battle, he collected about two thousand small arms.

Lieutenant and Aid-de-Camp Brodnax rendered valuable aid.

I should fail in my duty if I did not notice the splendid dash of General Kershaw and his staff.

Lieutenant Landry, of Captain Maurin's battery, I believe, called the Donelson artillery, by direction of Captain Latrobe, assistant adjutant and inspector general, took his piece from behind the epaulett in order to dislodge a body of the enemy upon whom the battery could not play. Most effectually he performed this service, but, in doing so, lost several of his men and had his piece disabled. His conduct was admirable, for, during the time, he was exposed to a direct fire of six and an enfilade fire of four guns.

With sadness, we mourn the loss of many gallant men; but I will pay a special tribute to the intrepid General Cobb, who fell, mortally wounded, in the midst of his men, while nobly defending our righteous cause. His brigade, throughout the day, remained at the post of honor, in the front line.

Among those who fell, and those of his comrades who lament his loss, there was not one more meritorious than the modest, but brave and manly, Major Kelly, of the thirty-fifth North Carolina volunteers.

To two of my couriers, private Devam, twenty-fourth, and private Hood, thirty-sixth North Carolina volunteers, I am truly indebted for their devotion, gallantry and intelligence, during the several days.

I herewith enclose a complete list of the casualties in my division; in the aggregate five hundred and thirty. The wounded bear a large proportion to the killed. Before the town there were not engaged, all told, on our part, more than five thousand. It is impossible to estimate exactly the number of the enemy who were opposed to us. From prisoners taken, it is certain that all of Sumner's grand division and part of Hooker's were brought against the position. Among these can be named, specially, Hancock's and Whipple's division, the Irish brigade, and the whole of the regular infantry of the old United States army, the latter under Sykes.

The enemy's loss in killed must have been very large. Each of the nights of Saturday, Sunday and Monday, the enemy bore off large numbers. On Tuesday I walked over the field, and the slain lay in many places piled up on each other. As I understand an accurate count of those buried has been made, I will not hazard an opinion as to the real number killed. The havoc was appalling.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. RANSOM, JR.,

*Brigadier General commanding Division.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL HOOD.

DIVISION HEADQUARTERS, NEAR FREDERICKSBURG, VA.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the participation of my command, composed of the Texas brigade, Brigadier General J. B. Robertson, commanding; Law's brigade, Brigadier General E. M. Law, commanding; Anderson's brigade, Brigadier General G. T. Anderson, commanding; Toombs' brigade, Colonel H. L. Benning commanding, and Reilly's, Bachman's and Gardner's batteries, in the battle of Fredericksburg, December 13th, 1862, and operations in connection therewith:

In obedience to instructions from the Lieutenant General commanding, on hearing the signal guns, about two o'clock, on the morning of the 11th December, I immediately formed my command and moved into position along the crest of the hills stretching from Dr. Reynolds' house to near the railroad crossing, and occupied the Bowling Green road with a heavy line of skirmishers. Soon afterwards, I pushed forward about one hundred riflemen to harass the enemy in his efforts to throw a bridge across the Rappahannock river, at the mouth of Deep Run. This party was unable, however, to effect the desired object, in consequence of the ground not affording shelter to the men within rifle-range of the river. My scouts having reported, near dark, that the enemy had completed a bridge across the river immediately below the mouth of Deep Run, and in my front, I increased my force in the Bowling Green road and threw a line of skirmishers to the front, with orders to the commanding officer to hold the road. The enemy commenced crossing infantry and artillery at dark, and continued doing so throughout the night, at the same time deploying to their left, to and below Mr. Arthur Bernard's house, thereby indicating his intention to attack our right.

During the night, I withdrew the force from the Bowling Green road, and the line of skirmishers back to the road. At about ten o'clock, on the morning of the 12th, I was relieved by General A. P. Hill's division, and, in obedience to orders from the Lieutenant General commanding, relieved General Pickett on my left. Discovering a body of the enemy's cavalry deployed along the railroad, I detached two companies from Toombs' and one company from Law's brigade, and, without loss on our side, drove them off, killing two or three men and five horses. About dark, General Pickett reoccupied his original position; and, in compliance with instructions from the Lieutenant General commanding, I moved my command back to my original position, with orders to co-operate with A. P. Hill's or any other troops of General T. J. Jackson's corps.

On the 13th, during the engagement on the right of our line, a considerable force of the enemy defiled from the right bank of Deep Run, and, forming line of battle, advanced, driving our skirmishers from and occupying the railroad. Two of Brigadier General Law's regi-

ments, the fifty-seventh North Carolina, Colonel A. C. Godwin commanding, and fifty-fourth North Carolina, Colonel J. C. McDowell commanding, were thrown forward, the fifty-seventh leading, and in gallant style drove the enemy from the position he had gained, following him up to within three hundred yards of the Bowling Green road and punishing him severely. These regiments, with the fourth Alabama, Law's brigade, support, held the railroad until dark, when they were relieved by other troops from my command, who retained possession of it until the enemy recrossed the river, on the night of the 15th.

As usual, Brigadier General Law was conspicuous upon the field, acting with great gallantry, and had his horse killed under him whilst personally directing the movements of his brigade.

It is with much pleasure that I call your attention to the gallant bearing of both the officers and men of the fifty-seventh North Carolina regiment, Colonel A. C. Godwin commanding, in their charge on a superior force of the enemy, posted in the strong position he had gained. Equal praise is due the fifty-fourth North Carolina regiment, Colonel J. C. McDowell commanding, for their able support of the fifty-seventh, and especially for their display of discipline in changing front under fire, to cover the left flank of the fifty-seventh from the fire of a force of the enemy occupying Deep Run, below the railroad, to which they became exposed in consequence of their pursuit of the force they had dislodged. Indeed, I cannot in justice omit to mention the bearing and morale of my entire command during the time the enemy was in our front, as evidenced by their earnest desire to be led to battle and their presence at all times, as, to the best of my knowledge, not a single officer or man left ranks without proper authority.

The members of my staff were, as usual, at their posts, and zealous in the discharge of every duty devolving upon them. Below will be found a summary of the casualties of my command.

For further particulars, attention is called to accompanying reports of brigade commanders.

I am, Major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. HOOD,  
*Major General commanding.*

BRIGADES.	KILLED.		WOUNDED.		MISSING.		AGGREGATE.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers	Enlisted men.	Officers	Enlisted men.	
Texas brigade....	.....	1	.....	4	.....	.....	5
Law's brigade.....	.5	45	6	156	.....	6	218
Anderson's brigade.....	2	.....	.....	8	.....	4	14
Toombs' brigade.....	.....	1	1	10	.....	2	14
	5	49	7	178	.....	12	251

## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL D. H. HILL.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION, December 24, 1862.

Captain A. S. PENNLETON, *A. A. G.:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the operations of my command around Fredericksburg. On the 3rd December my division was sent to Port Royal, to prevent the crossing of the Yankees at or near that point. Four Yankee gunboats were then lying opposite the town. Rifle-pits were constructed above the town on the night of the 4th, to prevent the pirates from ascending; and Hardaway's Whitworth gun was placed on Jack's Hill, some three miles below the town, and his remaining two guns, with Carter's Parrott's, were placed on the hill due west of the town. Hardaway opened upon the gunboats about three o'clock, on the 5th instant. Finding the fire too hot for them, they fled back to town, where they were sheltered from Carter's fire. Hardaway continued to pelt them; and, to stop his fire, (as is supposed,) the ruffians commenced shelling the town, full of women and children. The town was partially destroyed, but a merciful God kindly protected the inoffensive inhabitants. A dog was killed and a negro wounded; no other living being was injured. Finding that Hardaway's fire did not slacken, the pirates fled down the river. But now a worse fate awaited them than a distant cannonade. The gallant Major Pelham, of General Stuart's horse artillery, had a section of artillery immediately on the bank of the river and gave them a parting salute. He was greeted with grape and canister, and had one man killed. There were no casualties at my batteries. From Yankee sources, we learned that the pirates lost six killed and twenty wounded. Whether they over-estimated or under-estimated their loss, I do not know. They sometimes lie on one side, and sometimes on another. In a few days, the pirates returned as high as Port Tobago, with five more of their thievish consorts. Eleven rifle guns of Colcnel Browne's reserve artillery and all my division batteries were brought down to the river, under cover of a dense fog, and, when it lifted, were opened upon them. The firing was bad, except from the Whitworth, and it soon drove them under cover of a thick growth of woods, where they lay concealed. We have learned, from the same respectable Yankee source, that three of the pirates were struck, one three times, and that a captain was killed and four or five other thieves knocked on the head. We had no casualties. Just before sundown, on the 12th instant, I received an order to march that night to Fredericksburg, as the Yankees were expected to attack General Lee the next day. A portion of my command was twenty-two miles from that city, and the most of them from eighteen to twenty. We began our march immediately and proceeded until we were stopped by encountering General Early's column, some three miles from Hamilton's crossing. We waited until daylight, and then followed General Early. His division was placed in the second line,

behind General A. P. Hill, and my division in the third line, behind General Early. We remained in that position until noon, when the division was ordered on the extreme right to meet a flank movement of the Yankees, under General Doubleday. We were, however, soon ordered back, as Doubleday did not advance, and our front line, under General A. P. Hill, had been broken. General Early pushed forward and recovered the lost ground, and my division took Early's position. My division artillery and the reserve artillery, under Colonel Brown, (temporarily under my command,) were sent forward in the afternoon to relieve the batteries which had been engaged in the morning. The relieving batteries have been highly commended for gallant and effective service. Captains Carter, Hardaway, Bondurant, Fry and Page were conspicuous here, as everywhere, for gallantry and alacrity in the discharge of duty. Towards sundown, on the 13th, a general advance of our lines was ordered, preceded by artillery. Artillery officers were called for to volunteer for this hazardous duty. Captain Bondurant and Lieutenants Pendleton and Carter, of my division, volunteered and brought out their batteries. The answering reply of the Yankee artillery to ours was so rapid and constant that the advance was halted before our columns emerged from the woods to view.

On the 14th instant, General Early and Taliaferro occupied the front line, my division the second line, and General A. P. Hill the third. The Yankees, having been terribly thrashed the day before, were quiescent on the 14th. They had established themselves in a hedge-row, and had it lined with artillery. Hardaway got a position, with his Whitworth gun, from which he could enfilade the line. He drove out all their batteries and made them leave at a gallop. I think that his gun killed the Yankee General Bayard, as no other of our guns could carry so far as to the point where he was struck. At Upperville, on November 2nd, this gun put to flight two Yankee batteries, and cavalry and artillery, at the distance of three miles and a half. Grimes' brigade occupied the extreme right of our front line on the night of the 13th, and held the same position for the next two days. This brigade also furnished a hundred sharpshooters to support Stuart, and these were constantly skirmishing with the Yankees during the 14th and 15th. Colonel Estes, with his regiment, forty-fourth Georgia, Doles' brigade, was also sent to support Stuart on the night of the 13th, and remained with him until the 15th. These advance troops, together with the skirmishers thrown out from each brigade when on the advance line, were the only portions of my division actively engaged with the Yankees. My division relieved Generals Early and Taliaferro before day on the 15th, and remained all day in the advance. Major Jones' battalion, of my division artillery, was placed on our left flank. The Yankees were unusually placid on the 15th. The only firing worthy of notice was from some dozen or twenty pieces on the other side of the river, attempting to dislodge Hardaway from his enfilading position. He, however, lay quietly on his straw-rick, looking at them with his glass, and only firing when he could make his shot tell. As the day of the 15th wore away without a fight, the division, with the exception of the advance

detachments, not having drawn trigger, applied to Lieutenant General Jackson to remain one day longer on the front line. This request was granted. At daylight, our pickets were thrown forward and the enemy found to be gone. Burnside had changed his base. We captured two hundred and ninety-two of the Yankee pickets and stragglers; and gathered up between three and four thousand excellent rifles and muskets. I regret to add that, although none of my troops drew trigger, with the exceptions above made, we had one hundred and seventy-three casualties in the division, nearly all from the artillery fire of the Yankees.

My thanks are due to all my staff for faithful and efficient services. Major J. W. Ratchford and Major Archer Anderson, adjutant general's staff; Major Jones, commanding battalion of artillery; Captain Carter, chief of artillery; Captain M. L. Randolph, signal officer; Lieutenant R. H. Morrison, aid-de-camp; Lieutenant E. F. Brevard, volunteer aid; Lieutenants Harris and Estelle, ordnance officers; Mr. Arthur Chichester, engineer officer; Sergeant Harmeling, commanding the couriers, all rendered valuable and important service.

I cannot speak too highly of the steadiness of my men under fire, their confidence of victory and eagerness to lend their efforts to achieve it, their patient endurance of a fatiguing march the night before the battle, and their general subordination and good conduct. Under tried veterans as brigade commanders—Rodes, Colquitt, Piereson, Doles and Grimes—I feel confident that they will do well whenever called upon to meet the infernal Yankees. In no battle of the war has the signal interposition of God in our favor been more wonderfully displayed than at Fredericksburg, and it is to be earnestly hoped that our gratitude will correspond in some degree with His favor.

Respectfully submitted,

D. H. HILL, *Major General.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL A. P. HILL.

HEADQ'R'S A. P. HILL'S LIGHT DIVISION, JACKSON'S CORPS, }  
Camp near Fredericksburg, January 1, 1863.. }

Captain A. S. PENDLETON,  
*Assistant Adjutant General Jackson's Corps :*

CAPTAIN : I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the light division in the battle of Fredericksburg:

It having been definitely ascertained that the enemy had crossed the Rappahannock in large force, on the evening of the 11th December, I was directed by General R. E. Lee, subsequently by the Lieutenant General, also, to move my division at dawn, on the 12th, and relieve Major General Hood. In obedience to this order, I put my troops in position, my front line consisting of two regiments of Breckenbrough's brigade, the brigades of Generals Archer, Lane and Pender, my extreme right resting upon the road leading from Hamilton's Crossing to the Port Royal road, and my left to within a short distance of Deep Creek. Upon the hill crowning the right of my line, Lieutenant Colonel Lindsay Walker, my chief of artillery, had in position, under his own immediate direction, fourteen rifle and Napoleon guns, composed of the batteries of Pegram and McIntosh, with sections from the batteries of Crenshaw, Latham and Johnson, commanded respectively by Lieutenants Ellett, Potts and Chitter. The batteries of Captains Davidson and Braxton (the latter commanded by Lieutenant Marye) were placed to cover my left, about two hundred yards in front of Pender's brigade.

My line of battle, as thus formed, was fully one mile and a half in extent, the division of Major General Hood being on my left. Lane's brigade was some one hundred and fifty yards in advance of my general line, the timber, in the skirt of which was posted his brigade, jutting out into the low grounds some distance from the main body. Along the military road—a new road running in rear of my front line from right to left, cut by Major General Hood—were posted my reserves, consisting of the remainder of Breckenbrough's brigade, fortieth and fifty-fifth Virginia, as a support to Walker's batteries, Gregg's brigade crossing the interval between Archer and Lane, and Thomas' brigade the interval between Lane and Pender. The division remained as thus posted during Friday and Friday night undisturbed, except by the shelling from the enemy's guns.

On Saturday morning, Lieutenant General Jackson directed that Braxton's battery and two batteries from Brigadier General Taliaferro's division be placed in advance of the railroad, and General Lane was directed to support them. Braxton's battery was relieved by Latimer, a young veteran. About ten o'clock, Saturday morning, the lifting of the fog discovered to us the lines of the enemy, drawn out in battle

array on the low grounds between us and the river, covering the whole of my front, and extending far to the left, towards Fredericksburg. They were deployed in three lines, with heavy reserves behind the Port Royal road. Soon their lines, accompanied by ten batteries, six on their left and four on the right, moved forward to the attack. They had advanced but a short distance, when Stuart's horse artillery opening on them from the Port Royal road and enfilading their lines, the advance was halted and four of the batteries gave their attention for an hour or more to Major Pelham. As soon as Pelham ceased his fire, all their batteries, right and left, opened a terrific fire upon the positions occupied by my batteries, and shelled the woods promiscuously. There being no reply from any of our batteries, and being unable to elicit any discoveries from this sharp practice, continued for an hour or more, the advance was again sounded, and, preceded by clouds of skirmishers, the right gallantly essayed another attempt. To cover this advance, their batteries were now served with redoubled activity, and now, the masses of infantry being within point blank range, the roar was deepened and made deadly to the enemy as shell and canister from our long silent, but now madly aroused, batteries ploughed through their ranks. The enemy, however, continued to advance, and the three batteries already mentioned as having been posted in advance of the railroad were compelled to retire, their withdrawal being covered by Lieutenant Colonel Hill, with the seventh North Carolina. Lane's brigade was the first to encounter the masses of the enemy, who, recoiling somewhat from his direct front, shifted their main attack to his right, endeavoring to penetrate through the interval between Archer and himself. The attack directly in front of Archer and of Walker's guns had been gallantly repulsed, the enemy finding what shelter they could along the railroad. Concentrating their columns of attack, the enemy now made a bold effort, and, pushing onward, turned Lane's right, although obstinately resisted by the twenty-eighth and thirty-seventh North Carolina regiments. Colonel Barber, of the thirty-seventh, finding his right turned, changed front with his three right companies, and poured in a destructive fire. These two regiments continued to fight until their ammunition was exhausted, and were then quickly and steadily retired from the field, refilling their boxes and rejoining their brigade. The three remaining regiments of Lane's brigade (seventh, eighteenth and thirty-third North Carolina) steadily continued to battle against overwhelming numbers, and the attack was checked by well directed volleys from the thirty-third regiment, Colonel Avery. General Thomas, responding to the call of General Lane, rapidly threw forward his brigade of Georgians, by the flank, and deploying by successive formations, squarely met the enemy, charged them, and, joined by the seventh and part of the eighteenth North Carolina, drove them back, with tremendous loss, to their original position. In the meantime, the main column of attack had wedged in to the right and rear of Lane, encountered Archer's left, and, attacked in flank and rear, the fourteenth Tennessee and nineteenth Georgia were compelled to give back. General Archer, observing the threatening condition of affairs on his left, very promptly

detached the fifth Alabama battalion, holding his line with the brave first Tennessee, under the gallant Turney, and this movement, rapidly executed, and assisted by two regiments of Brockenbrough, (forty-seventh Virginia and twenty-second Virginia battalion,) was attended with signal success. The advancing columns of the enemy had also encountered an obstacle in the military road which they little expected—Gregg's brigade of South Carolinians stood in the way. Taken somewhat by surprise, Orr's rifles were thrown into confusion, mistaking the advancing enemy for our own troops falling back. It was at this moment that Brigadier General Maxey Gregg—himself fearful of harming our friends—fell, in front of the rifles, mortally wounded. A more chivalrous gentleman and gallant soldier never adorned the service which he so loved. One company of the rifles, Lieutenant Charles, and the four remaining regiments, the first, twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth, stood firm as on parade. Colonel Hamilton, now in command of the brigade, threw back the right wing of his regiment and opened a destructive fire, the twelfth faced about, and the thirteenth and fourteenth, under the direction of Colonel McGowan, faced by the rear rank, changed front forward, and stood prepared to resist any attempt to sweep down my rear. The combat was short, sharp and decisive. The rattling musketry and charging yell of the fifth Alabama battalion, the forty-seventh Virginia regiment and twenty-second Virginia battalion, and the withering fire from Hamilton's regiment, right in their faces, was more than Yankee firmness could stand. In addition to this, that gallant old warrior, General Early, to whom I had sent, requesting that he would move down to my support, came crashing through the woods at the double-quick.

The enemy, completely broken, fled in confusion. The two regiments of Brockenbrough's brigade, Archer, with the first Tennessee and fifth Alabama battalion, and Early's troops, chased them across the railroad and back to their reserves. In this backward movement of theirs, my artillery again inflicted heavy loss upon them. On the extreme left of my line, held by the North Carolina brigade of General Pender, (thirteenth, sixteenth, twenty-second, thirty-fourth and thirty-eighth,) the enemy made several threatening attempts to advance, but were invariably repulsed by the well-directed fire from Davidson's and Latimer's guns. From the nature of the ground occupied by Pender's brigade, and the entire absence of all protection against artillery, his brigade received the greater part of the terrible fire directed at Davidson and Latimer, and suffered severely. General Pender was himself wounded, and his aid, Lieutenant Sheppard, killed, whilst gallantly rallying a portion of the eighteenth regiment of Lane's brigade. During the temporary absence of General Pender, the command of the brigade devolved upon Colonel Scales, of the thirteenth. The two batteries suffered much by the fire of a heavy line of skirmishers. Colonel Scales directed Major Cole, of the twenty-second North Carolina, to dislodge them, which was handsomely done. The sixteenth, Colonel McElroy, which had been thrown out as a support to Latimer's battery, became pretty hotly

engaged with a brigade of the enemy which had advanced up Deep Run under cover, and, assisted by two North Carolina regiments of Law's brigade, Hood's division, drove them back. The enemy having thus been repulsed at all points, my brigades remained in their original positions, save General Thomas', (fourteenth, thirty-fifth, forty-fifth and forty-ninth Georgia,) which was not recalled from the position it had so gallantly won in the front line, and General Archer, who, being out of ammunition, was relieved by Colonel Hoke, of Early's division. About dusk I received an order from the Lieutenant General to advance my whole line and drive the enemy. This order was, however, countermanded while preparations were being made to carry it out. During the night my division was relieved from the front by the divisions of Generals Early and Taliaferro. When the fight was hottest, General Taliaferro very promptly responded to my call, and moved down his division to within easy supporting distance of my left. I cannot close this report without calling the attention of the Lieutenant General to the admirable manner in which the troops of this division behaved under that most trying of all things to the soldier, viz : inaction under a heavy fire of artillery. The absence of all straggling was remarkable, and is entitled to high commendation. The conscripts showed themselves desirous of being thought worthy comrades of our veteran soldiers. In this, as in all previous battles, my thanks are eminently due to the brigade commanders for their hearty co-operation, the coolness and skill with which they have handled their troops. General Pender, though wounded, resumed the command of his brigade as soon as his wound was dressed.

Amongst the field officers wounded are Colonels Turney, Barber, Purdie; Lieutenant Colonel George, first Tennessee; Majors Vandegraff, Norton, Lee, Neill and Buchanan. The three field officers and senior captain (Turney) of the first Tennessee were struck down. General Pender mentions especially First Lieutenant S. S. Kirkland and Mr. John Young, volunteer aid-de-camp. General Archer was efficiently served by Lieutenants Lemmon and Thomas. General Lane speaks of the good conduct of Captain Hawks and Lieutenant Lane, A. D. C. And General Thomas, that when all did so well he cannot say more. Captain Alexander Haskell, assistant adjutant general to the lamented Gregg, was severely wounded, but refused to leave the field, until, fainting from exhaustion and loss of blood, he was carried off. Captain Alston, of the first South Carolina volunteers, also deserves special mention; he, having been severely wounded, after being dressed at the hospital, returned to the field in spite of the remonstrance of the surgeon. Lieutenant Colonel Walker, assisted by Lieutenant Chamberlaine, directed the fire from his guns with admirable coolness and precision. Pegram, as usual, with McIntosh to help him, managed to find the hottest place, though perhaps Davidson might have been willing to exchange positions with them.

I had forgotten to mention that at half-past three o'clock my batte-

ries on the right, except one section of Pegram's, were relieved by the corps of Colonel Brown.

The chief surgeon of the division, Dr. Powell, by his system and order and untiring personal attention, secured more comfort to the wounded than has been usual. By ten o'clock the next day his hospital had been cleared of all those who could be moved, and, with their wounds dressed, were on their way to Richmond. He acknowledges valuable assistance from the Richmond committee.

The members of my staff, Major Morgan, assistant adjutant general; Captain Wingall, assistant adjutant and inspector general; Captain Hill, aid-de camp; Major Palmer, first Virginia regiment, Captain Adams, signal officer, and Captain Gordon, volunteer aid-de-camp, (whose horse was killed,) were active and zealous in the discharge of their duties. Captain Howard, my engineer officer, was particularly efficient in strengthening my lines. Captain Stanard, ordnance officer, made efficient arrangements for the supply of ammunition, and fought with his guns. Captain Braxton, though sick, appeared on the field. Sergeant Tucker, chief of couriers, was, as usual, always by my side, active and fearless.

The loss in the light division is:

Officers—Killed, 16; wounded 119. Enlisted men—Killed, 215; wounded, 1,355. Missing—Officers, 11; enlisted men, 406. Total, 2,085.

I respectfully refer you to the accompanying reports of commanding officers of brigades.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. P. HILL,  
*Major General commanding Light Division.*

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL TALIAFERRO, COM-  
MANDING JACKSON'S DIVISION.

HEADQUARTERS JACKSON'S DIVISION,  
*Camp near Moss Neck, December 24, 1862.* {

Captain A. S. PENDLETON,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

CAPTAIN: In conformity with the order of the Lieutenant General commanding, I have the honor to report the operations of this division, on the 13th and 14th instants, before Fredericksburg:

On the morning of the 12th, I marched from Guineas Station to Hamilton's Crossing, at which place I found the division of Major General A. P. Hill posted in order of battle from the crossing, on the right, to Bernard's quarters, on the left. I took position on the railroad, to his right; but was subsequently ordered to move my command to the rear of the left of his line. I posted Paxton's and Starke's brigades in rear of Gregg's and Thomas', of Hill's division, and held Taliaferro's and Jones' brigades in reserve. In the evening I ordered Colonel Warren, commanding Taliaferro's brigade, to the rear of Hamilton's house, to support the artillery posted on the hill in front. Upon the arrival of Early's division next morning, this brigade was withdrawn and re-occupied its old position. General Early's line connected with mine on the right. My artillery was held at the crossing on the Mine road, to the left of the division. I reported to General A. P. Hill my dispositions in his rear, and informed him that I had ordered the brigade and battery commanders to recognize any demands for support, if pressing, without the intervention of immediate superiors.

Early on the morning of the 13th, the batteries of Captains Wooding and Carpenter, the latter commanded by Lieutenant McKendree, were posted in the field, across the railroad, to the right of Bernard's quarters, and the Lee battery, Lieutenant Statham, and two pieces of Lusk's battery on the hill to the left. The other pieces of these batteries operated on the extreme right.

The enemy advanced about nine o'clock, when our batteries opened a destructive fire upon them, causing them to waver and break; but they again advanced, concentrating so heavy a fire of artillery upon the position that it became necessary to retire the batteries behind the railroad, in rear of the quarters, after two hours action. The infantry of the division, during this time, were subjected to the shells of the enemy, but advanced to the military road, to be in easy support of General Hill's line, with perfect steadiness and enthusiasm. General Paxton, finding that our troops were giving back to the right of Gregg's brigade, and the enemy advancing beyond the front line, through a gap, which fronted a boggy wood, supposed to be inaccessible to the enemy, moved his brigade to the right, and engaged, with

two of his regiments; the enemy, who had penetrated to the military road, but who were retiring by the time he reached that point. He then pushed forward to the front, and occupied, for the rest of the day, the front line at that place. The other brigades were held in position in rear of the military road until the morning of the 14th, when I relieved General A. P. Hill's troops in the front; Starke's brigade relieving General Pender's on the left; Jones', Taliaferro's and Paxton's occupying the railroad, and connecting with General Early's troops on the right. At daybreak the enemy made a slight demonstration on my left, their skirmishers advancing nearly to the railroad cut, but they were instantly driven back. I thought it advisable to change the position of Starke's brigade, which had relieved Pender's, and extend my left on the railroad. This was ordered and accomplished, but I subsequently withdrew part of that brigade and held it in position to command the rising ground near Bernard's quarters. The skirmishing, in the early part of the day, was quite brisk and animated along the whole line, but ceased about midday. I had given positive orders to waste no ammunition, and to fire only when the annoyance of the enemy's skirmishers rendered it necessary. I am satisfied the men fired with deliberation and considerable effect. I had a battery masked behind Bernard's house, and some of my pieces, to the left co-operated with those of General Hood.

At five o'clock, A. M., of the 15th, I was relieved by General D. H. Hill, and moved my command back to the Mine road.

I take pleasure in stating that officers and men behaved admirably, displaying coolness and courage under fire, and changing positions, without any disorder or confusion.

I would particularly mention Brigadier Generals Jones and Paxton, Colonel Warren, (tenth Virginia,) commanding Taliaferro's brigade, and Colonel Pendleton, (fifteenth Louisiana,) commanding Starke's brigade, whose reports are herewith forwarded, and who make especial mention of some of their officers, among them most particularly is Lieutenant Colonel Gardner, fourth Virginia infantry, who was severely wounded.

I cannot too highly mention the gallantry of Captain Brockenbrough, chief of artillery, and of Captain Wooding and Lieutenant Jones, Wooding's battery, and Lieutenant Lambie, Carpenter's battery, all of whom were severely wounded; and of Captain Caskie, Lieutenants McKendree, Hunton, Statham, Early and Donald.

It is with great pain I have to add that the division has to deplore the loss of one of its most gallant officers of artillery, Lieutenant Barton, and two gallant officers of the twenty-first Virginia regiment, Captain Ames and Lieutenant Swoop, who fell nobly discharging their duty.

I take occasion, in conclusion, to acknowledge my obligations to the officers of my staff, Captain W. T. Taliaferro, assistant adjutant general, Captain Moore, inspector general, and Major T. S. Taliaferro, volunteer aid-de-camp, and to call attention to the excellent arrangements made for the comfort of the wounded by Surgeon Coleman, medical director of division.

I enclose a list of killed and wounded, amounting to one hundred and ninety.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

W. B. TALIAFERRO,

*Brigadier General, commanding Jackson's Division.*

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL EARLY, COMMANDING DIVISION.

HEADQUARTERS EWELL'S DIVISION, }  
December 27, 1862. }

Captain A. S. PENDLETON,

*A. A. General Second Corps, A. N. V.:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of this division in the action of the 13th instant, near Fredericksburg:

In obedience to orders from the Lieutenant General commanding the second corps, I marched the division, on the night of the 12th instant, to the vicinity of Hamilton's Crossing, on the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac railroad, and bivouacked for the night. Early next morning, in accordance with like orders, I moved to the crossing and posted the division, nearly at right angles with the railroad, along the direct road, which here crosses the railroad, with my right resting on the latter, so as to support the right of Major General A. P. Hill's division, which occupied the front line. Hays' brigade was placed on the right, with Trimble's brigade, under command of Colonel R. F. Hoke, of the twenty-first North Carolina regiment, immediately in rear of it. To the left of Hays' was Lawton's brigade, under command of Col. E. N. Atkinson, of the twenty-sixth Georgia regiment; and to the left of the latter was my own brigade, under command of Colonel J. A. Walker, of the thirteenth Virginia regiment. The batteries of the division, under charge of Captain J. W. Latimer, who was detailed to act as chief of artillery for the occasion, in consequence of Captain William D. Brown (who was previously acting in that capacity) having been disabled by an accident, were directed to be parked, under cover, in the rear, until wanted. As the division moved into position, the artillery fire commenced from the enemy's batteries, though not at first directed towards the place occupied by the division. After a short interval, however, shells began to fall in the vicinity, and for two or three hours the division was exposed to quite a severe cannonade, and suffered, to some extent, from the shells and other missiles which passed through the woods in front.

About or a little after noon, the infantry fire having commenced in front and becoming quite animated, a messenger from Brigadier General Archer, of General A. P. Hill's division, came to the rear, stating that General Archer was pressed and wished reinforcements. Just at this moment I received an order from the Lieutenant General commanding the corps, through one of his staff officers, to hold my division in readiness to move to the right of the railroad as the enemy was making a demonstration in that direction. This caused me to hesitate a moment about sending a brigade forward, but I directed Colonel Atkinson to get ready to advance with his brigade, and the order had

hardly been given before an officer of artillery came galloping to the rear with the information that an interval (an awful gulf, as he designated it) had been left in our front line on the left of General Archer's brigade, through which the enemy were penetrating with a heavy column, thus endangering Archer's brigade and all our batteries on the right. I immediately ordered Colonel Atkinson to move forward with his brigade, (Lawton's,) as I was informed the interval was in front of it. This order was promptly complied with, and the brigade, with the exception of one regiment, (the thirteenth Georgia,) moved forward in fire style, and, in a few minutes, encountered the enemy in the woods on the hill immediately in rear of a point at which the railroad passes through a small neck of swampy woods, which position he had reached almost without opposition, thus greatly endangering our right, as, in a few minutes, Archer's and Field's brigades, with our batteries on the right, would have been surrounded and the enemy have obtained a lodgment from which it would have been difficult to drive him. Lawton's brigade, without hesitating, at once dashed upon the enemy with the cheering peculiar to the Confederate soldier, and which is never mistaken for the studied hurrahs of the Yankees, and drove the column opposed to it down the hill, across the railroad and out into the open plain, advancing so far and with such ardor as to cause one of the enemy's batteries to be abandoned. This brigade was, however, compelled to fall back from this point by the approach of a large column on its right flank, which proved to be Birney's division of Stoneman's corps and Hooker's grand division. In a very few moments after ordering the advance of Lawton's brigade, I also ordered Colonel Walker forward with my own brigade, as I was informed Lawton's brigade would not cover the interval in the line. This order was executed in double-quick time, and Walker encountered the enemy in the woods to the left of the place at which Lawton's brigade encountered one column, another having turned General Lane's right flank and his brigade having given way in consequence. This column was quickly driven out of the woods by Walker, across the railroad and into the plain beyond, but, perceiving still another column crossing the railroad to his left and entering the woods, he withdrew the brigade back to the railroad and took position on it, detaching, at the same time, the thirteenth Georgia regiment, under Lieutenant Colonel Terrell, to attack the last-named column of the enemy on the flank. About the same time General Thomas, of General A. P. Hill's division, with his brigade, attacked this column in front, and, under the two fires, it was driven back, with considerable slaughter. As soon as Lawton's and my own brigades were ordered forward, I directed Colonel Hoke to move with his brigade (Trimble's) to the left of Hays, on the same line, but he had hardly got into position before I received information that Archer's brigade was giving way, and I ordered Hoke to advance to his support, obliquing to the right. This was done in gallant style, and Hoke found the enemy in possession of the trench which had been occupied by General Archer's brigade, on the crest of the hill, and in the woods in rear of it. Hoke attacked the enemy vigorously and drove him

from the woods and trench to the railroad in front, in which there were reserves. He followed up his attack and drove the enemy from the railroad, which was a strong position, some distance in front, capturing a considerable number of prisoners and afterwards securing several hundred stands of arms. He advanced his brigade to a fence some distance in front of the railroad, but perceiving his danger of being flanked by the enemy, who had brought up large fresh columns, I sent an order to him to fall back to the original line, which order, however, he anticipated by retiring in good order, leaving two regiments and a battalion on the railroad, and occupying the trench on the crest of the hill with the two other regiments and the thirteenth Georgia regiment, which latter having failed to accompany its brigade on account of a misapprehension of its Colonel, had been ordered forward with Hoke's brigade, and got up in time to occupy the trench, but not to participate in the charge.

Just as I had ordered Colonel Hoke forward, I received a message from Lieutenant General Jackson to advance to the front with the whole division, and I thereupon ordered General Hays to advance in rear of Colonel Hoke with his brigade, which movement was promptly executed; the enemy, who had discontinued his artillery fire while his infantry was advancing on the hill, having reopened his batteries, so that this brigade was exposed to a galling fire while advancing.

This brigade did not engage in the infantry fight because, by the time it reached the front line, the enemy had been effectually repulsed. The movements of the three brigades which were engaged are necessarily described separately, because they engaged three separate bodies of the enemy. They were, however, moved forward in rapid succession in the order stated, and were in fact all engaged at the same time, though commencing their several engagements at different times in the same order in which they advanced. The railroad makes a circle in passing from the right of our position around to the left, so that Lawton's brigade in passing to the front, with Walker's and Hoke's respectively on the left and right of it, was thrown into the apex of an angle, and having the start of them both, it was necessarily thrown farther forward than either of the others when it crossed the railroad and advanced into the plain. This exposed its flanks, and hence it was that this brigade was compelled to fall back as before stated, which, however, it did not do until its commander, Colonel Atkinson, and Capt. E. P. Lawton, the assistant adjutant general, were both disabled by wounds, and its ammunition was almost entirely exhausted. Seeing this brigade falling back, I halted it on the hill in the woods immediately in rear of the place at which it had first met the enemy, and caused it to be reformed under the command of Colonel C. A. Evans, of the thirty-first Georgia regiment, and, fearing that the enemy might follow through the same interval with a fresh column, I sent to General D. H. Hill for reinforcements, and he sent two brigades forward. Before, however, they arrived, Brigadier General Paxton, of General Taliaferro's division, had filled the interval left open by the falling back of this brigade, by promptly moving his own brigade into it. I

then sent Lawton's brigade to the rear to replenish its ammunition. Being posted at first in the second line, I did not have any immediate use for the batteries of the division, and therefore, after placing them under the charge of Captain Latimer, as stated, I requested Colonel Crutchfield, chief of artillery for the corps, to make such use of them as the emergencies of the day might require. In a short time he detached two batteries to a position on the left of Gen. A. P. Hill's line: these were Captain Latimer's own battery and Capt. Brown's battery, both being under charge of Captain Latimer, who accompanied them. These batteries did not operate in my view, but I am informed that they did excellent service, Captain Latimer having repulsed the enemy with canister after a regiment of infantry sent to support him had retired. Captain D'Aquin's and Captain Garber's batteries were also detached to the right of the railroad and placed under charge of General Stuart's chief of artillery, Major Pelham, and likewise did excellent service, as I am informed. Late in the evening, Captain Carrington, with his battery, relieved the two which had been sent to the left, under Captain Latimer, and next morning did good service.

On the next day, Captain Dement, with his battery, was placed in position on the hill on the right occupied by the batteries the day before, but did not become engaged.

About sundown, on the 13th, I saw General D. H. Hill's division moving to the front, and was informed by one of his Brigadier Generals that the whole line was ordered to advance, and that his division was ordered to follow. This was the first intimation I had of it, as no such order had been given me. In a few moments, however, Lieutenant Morrison, aid-de-camp, rode up and informed me that General Jackson's orders were that I should hold myself in readiness to advance; and immediately afterwards one of my own staff officers rode up and stated that General Jackson wished me to take command of the whole troops on the right and advance, regulating the distance by the effect produced on the enemy by our artillery. This was rather embarrassing to me, as my brigade had become separated in the positions assumed by them after repulsing the enemy, and a part of the troops on the right consisted of parts of two brigades of Maj. Gen. A. P. Hill's division. I rode immediately to where Colonel Hoke was posted and met General Jackson himself, from whom I received the order in person to advance, supporting the artillery which he was about sending forward. I gave the order to Colonel Hoke and General Hays accordingly, and some pieces of artillery having been advanced a short distance to the front, Colonel Hoke advanced with a part of his command to the railroad, a portion being already there. The enemy immediately opened a terrible artillery fire, and, it becoming quite dark, our own artillery was withdrawn and the movement countermanded. In a short time afterwards, I received notice from General Jackson, through one of my staff officers, that as soon as Gen. A. P. Hill's troops took position in front, I would move my own back and make them comfortable, getting provisions for them. No troops, however, of Gen. Hill, came to relieve me, and Walker, Hoke and Hays, with their brigades, remained during the night in the same positions

in which they were at the close of the fight. During the night, I received an order, through Lieutenant Smith, aid-de-camp, directing that General Taliaferro would relieve General A. P. Hill's division on the front line, beginning on the left and relieving to the extent of his troops, and that I would supply the deficiency. I was already occupying the front line with three brigades.

Early next morning, Walker was relieved by General Paxton's brigade, and I then placed Hays' brigade in the position which Paxton had left, and placed one regiment in front on the railroad, so as to make a continuous line on that road. Hoke was left in the same position; Lawton's brigade was placed on the right of Hoke, and Walker was moved to the right and placed in the rear of Hoke's and Lawton's brigades, so as to support either of them in case of need, or be thrown upon the right flank, as occasion might require.

On the morning of the 15th, the division was relieved by the division of General D. H. Hill and moved to the rear, in reserve, there having been no renewal of the enemy's attack on the 14th. Having received orders to occupy the second line on the 16th, as I was proceeding to do so, I was ordered to move to the vicinity of Port Royal, and moved accordingly.

I cannot too warmly express my admiration of the conduct of the troops of this division on the 13th. The absence of straggling or skulking, to any considerable extent, was a gratifying fact. Officers and men, generally, behaved admirably. To Brigadier General Hays and Colonels Walker, Atkinson and Hoke credit is due for having promptly obeyed my orders and managed their respective commands with coolness, courage and intelligence; and the same meed of praise is due Colonel Evans, who succeeded to the command of Lawton's brigade after Colonel Atkinson was wounded. Captain E. P. Lawton, assistant adjutant general of Lawton's brigade, displayed great courage and energy, and I call especial attention to the remarks of Colonel Evans in regard to him. I regret very much that Captain Lawton was so seriously wounded in the advanced position to which his brigade went as not to be in a condition to be brought off when the brigade retired, and he consequently fell into the hands of the enemy, as did also Colonel Atkinson. It will be observed that Lawton's brigade was compelled to fall back, but in doing so it lost no credit, for it was impossible for this brigade to withstand the heavy column brought against it.

To Lieutenant Colonel J. M. Jones, inspector general; Major S. Hale, acting assistant adjutant general; Major J. P. Wilson, and Mr. H. Heaton, volunteer aids, and Captain L. Marye, of the artillery, and Captain William F. Randolph, of Ewell's body-guard, all of whom accompanied me on the field, credit is due for the coolness, courage and intelligence with which they lent me their aid and bore my orders. To Captain Latimer is due the credit of having performed all the duties of his position efficiently and intelligently, and of having displayed great gallantry under fire. This young officer is one of great promise and deserves promotion. The failure to mention other officers is not intended to exclude them from the commendation be-

stowed on those mentioned, but it is impracticable to mention all that are deserving of praise. I feel it incumbent on me to state that to Brigadier General Archer, of General A. P. Hill's division, is due the credit of having held the enemy in check with a small portion of his men, after his flank and rear had been gained, until reinforcements arrived, and that, with what of his brigade was left, he accompanied Colonel Hoke in his charge across the railroad. But for the gallant stand made by General Archer, the enemy would have gained an advantage which it would have required a greater sacrifice of life to wrest from him than was made. The reports of brigade commanders, and also of Captain Latimer, acting chief of artillery, are herewith submitted. A list of killed, wounded and missing has been heretofore forwarded, from which it will be seen that the total killed was one hundred and two; total wounded, seven hundred and twenty six; total missing, one hundred and five. Most of the wounded are but slightly injured, and about fifty of the missing, being entirely from Lawton's brigade, fell into the hands of the enemy, the greater part being in all probability wounded.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. EARLY,  
*Brigadier General commanding Division.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL PENDLETON.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS, A. N. V., }  
Camp Near Chesterfield Station, R. & F. R. R., Caroline Co., Va., }  
March 12, 1863. }

General R. E. Lee, commanding :

GENERAL: Constant pressure of duty since the battle of Fredericksburg has prevented an earlier report of the part which then devolved upon the reserve artillery, and upon the undersigned as its commander and as supervisor of the artillery service in this army. Such report the undersigned has now the honor to submit, as proper in itself, and as part of the history of important transactions. While the army remained in the Valley of the Shenandoah, after returning from Maryland, the undersigned was diligently engaged in reorganizing the artillery and in directing adequate forage arrangements. On November 1st, with the reserve artillery and ordnance trains, he took up the line of march for Culpeper Court-House, and on the evening of the 4th encamped near that place. On the 14th, at the request of the commanding General, he sent Lane's battery to co-operate with General Stuart in an attack upon a body of the enemy near Warrenton Springs. And on the 17th, the same battery of superior guns was despatched, as requested, towards Fredericksburg, to co-operate under direction of General McLaws. On the 19th, orders to that effect having been received, the undersigned marched, with the reserve artillery and ordnance train, towards Fredericksburg, taking a circuitous route, (southeasterly,) for the sake of forage. On Sunday, the 23d, he arrived with the trains, reported at general headquarters, and located camps as directed. The next morning, as requested by the commanding General, he proceeded to the front for the purpose of observing the dispositions of the enemy and examining the ground, with a view to the best positions for works and batteries. The enemy was conspicuously in force, and often within easy range from above Falmouth to a point a mile or more below Fredericksburg. They had batteries in position, and were, in a few places, beginning earthworks. On our own line a few hurried works were in progress. Lane's battery was already well posted on the heights overhanging the river-bend above Falmouth, and forming our extreme left. Epaulments had been thrown up, but they needed much additional work. Lewis' and Grandy's batteries, recently called from Richmond to aid in repelling the enemy, were also in position on the lower plateau, about half a mile to the right of Lane, and nearer the town. Those needed for their protection much additional labor. These observations, and a cursory survey of the general line between the river above Falmouth and the telegraph road—in company with Lieutenant Colonel Brown, then on duty with the undersigned; with Lieutenant Colonel Alexander, whose encampment was visited, and with Captain Johnston, engineer, met with on the field—occupied the

entire day, the distance being considerable, and the points of importance numerous. The next day, November 25th, after detailing Captain Ross to proceed with his battery to a point on the river three or four miles below, to be indicated by a member of the commanding General's staff, where gunboats might be effectually repelled, the undersigned again visited the front, to study the ground with reference alike to its own features and to the apparent designs of the enemy. In the evening, he also visited the admirable position on the river bank selected for Ross' battery. Major Nelson and the captains of the reserve batteries were next requested to accompany the undersigned along the line, that they also might become familiar with routes and positions. On the 28th, the commanding General having requested that another rifle battery should be placed eight or ten miles lower down the river, towards repelling gunboats, the undersigned took Captain Milledge's battery of light rifles to a commanding bluff just below Skinker's mill. Here the battery was left, with one of General Stuart's, under charge of Major Pelham, with whom, moving from point to point as gunboats threatened, it remained more than ten days. On the 29th, Lieutenant Anderson, of Ells' battery, near Richmond, reported the arrival of men and horses with two thirty-pounder Parrott guns, which, on recommendation of the undersigned, the commanding General had ordered up to the lines. Measures were promptly taken to have them tested, and to fit them in all respects for service. December 1st, the undersigned was diligently engaged in examining again the whole line with reference to the best positions for these two large guns, facility of ingress and egress being important for them, as well as extensive command of the field. The points selected were reported to the commanding General, with reasons for the choice, and, on his approval, the sites were next day pointed out, working parties engaged, clearings commenced, &c. The work on the right and back of Mr. Howison's house was directed, with his accustomed intelligence and energy, by the since lamented General Thomas R. R. Cobb—that on the eminence further to the left, and near the telegraph road, was staked off and directed by the undersigned. This point, densely wooded when first chosen, became the most important, perhaps, in the entire scene, as the position affording the best view of all the field, and therefore principally occupied by the commanding General and other chief officers during the battle. In such duties, and in designating with Lieutenant Colonel Alexander, acting chief of artillery first corps, the various batteries to occupy assigned positions, the undersigned was engaged till the evening of December 11th. This evening Major Nelson, who had closely reconnoitred during the day, reported to him indications of an approaching movement on the part of the enemy. He also received a reliable intimation of intelligence said to have been sent to General Stuart by a friend across the river, that the enemy had orders to prepare rations and move at dawn next morning. On the 12th, therefore, signal guns just before dawn were only what the undersigned anticipated. A few minutes after them he sent one aid to the front for information, and another to the commanding General to ask if the

large Parrots should not at once be taken into position—the possibility of their being needed elsewhere having caused this to be delayed. It being now approved, they were, as early in the day as practicable, taken to the works prepared for them. A dense fog more than half the day concealed the enemy, and rendered active operations nearly impossible. The morning was therefore employed by us in preparation, adjusting batteries in position, &c. Later in the day, as the atmosphere cleared up, it was known that the enemy had completed a bridge across the river near the mouth of Deep Run. Near that run, in the river road—suggested a judicious staff officer, who had some days before ridden over the ground—good positions might be chosen, which ought now to be occupied by several batteries. To test this the undersigned proceeded to the place, accompanied by Majors Nelson and Garnett. The locality was within easy range of the bridge, and was of course more or less under fire from the enemy's lines across the river. Examination soon satisfied the undersigned that the position was unsuitable, because effectually commanded by the enemy's heavy guns, and because much too far in advance of the supporting infantry line. In this view the two attending officers fully concurred; and when the case was submitted to the commanding General, his judgment sanctioned the conclusion reached. While on this tour the undersigned, satisfied that under existing circumstances it ought to be done, sent an aid to recall Captain Ross with his battery from the post on the river, which he had so long and laboriously held, and had the satisfaction of finding that this only anticipated a direction to the precise effect from the commanding General. The four long-range guns of this battery were assigned position, under Major Garnett, on the heights near the right of McLaws' division. Saturday, 13th, heavy firing began early; and Patterson's six-pounder battery, with Ross' short-range section, having been assigned, under Major T. Jefferson Page, to General Hood's front, the undersigned hastened with Kirkpatrick's and Massie's batteries, under Major Nelson, to the heights near the telegraph road, commanding Marye's Hill, with the view to sweeping that plateau in case it should be ultimately gained by the enemy. The two large guns were then visited by him, that on the right having been committed to the direction of Captain Barnwell, that on the left to the command of Captain G. W. Nelson. Directions being left for the management of these, he proceeded to the other batteries along the heights, and attended to the best adjustment of all the guns.

These duties having been discharged, and the furious fire of the enemy observed for some time, as well as the fog would permit, from the site of the left-hand large gun, the undersigned rode to the left of the line, for the purpose of determining whether Lane's heavy guns were likely to be of more service there or elsewhere. Under cover of the fog, he was enabled to pass near the works on Marye's Hill, occupied by the Louisiana Washington artillery, and those further to the left, occupied by Maurin's and other batteries, so as to observe that all were ready. Captain Rhett's battery of heavy guns was visited, posted on the heights back of Marye's Hill, and near the

plank road, for the purpose, also, of sweeping that plateau, if possibly gained by the enemy. Thence passing on towards the left, the undersigned observed the several batteries of Alexander's battalion and some of those with Anderson's division, a portion in position behind epaulments, others in reserve under cover of the hills. By the time we reached Lane's battery, on the left, distant objects could be distinguished. And from the concentration of fire there, as well as from the character of the ground and the apparent dispositions of the enemy, it seemed clear to Colonel Alexander, who rode thither with the undersigned, and to himself, that those guns ought not then to be removed from a point of such importance. Contingent provision was, however, made for supplying, by pieces of less power, the places of the Whitworth and larger rifles, in case greater need for these elsewhere should occur. The fog was now disappearing, and the firing becoming severe all along the line, so that shells were passing and exploding in considerable numbers about the undersigned and certain members of his staff on the route returning to the central point of observation. Here he remained until some time after dark, watching the struggle near and remote, occasionally directing the fire of the large gun, and from time to time receiving instructions from the commanding General concerning movements of batteries and other arrangements. This large Parrott having been used some hours with terrible effect upon the enemy, especially when, driven back by an intolerable fire from Marye's Hill, they crowded into the deep railroad cut, which it enfiladed, burst about the thirty-ninth discharge. Although many persons were standing near, among them the commanding General and Lieutenant General Longstreet, and, perhaps within ten feet, the undersigned, by a remarkable providence, the explosion was entirely harmless. Not a single individual received from it so much as a scratch. A small Parrott was immediately substituted, and orders were sent by an aid for Lane's Whitworth to be removed to this point as speedily as possible. But before it arrived darkness had closed upon the scene; the enemy's last feeble attempt, made after dark, had failed, and the tumult of battle settled into the stillness of death.

Although the enemy had been thus far successfully repelled, alike on the right and left, it was confidently expected that a more serious attack would be made next morning; accordingly, measures were taken to meet it effectually. On request from General Jackson for additional guns to strengthen his extreme right, Milledge's battery of light rifles, which had that evening arrived from below, was ordered to report at dawn next morning to Major Pelham, who had charge of one or two batteries on the right. And at the request of General McLaws, who wished to detect and frustrate any effort of working parties of the enemy near our lines next the town, the undersigned caused to be prepared at the ordnance workshop, and conducted to the batteries on Marye's Hill, some incendiary shells, to be used, if found necessary, in firing certain buildings suitably situated so as to illuminate the scene and reveal any works in course of construction. This proved superfluous. Nothing being attempted by

the enemy, the shells were not used. These duties necessarily occupied the undersigned till late, and required the active services of members of his staff during most of the night.

Sunday morning, the 15th, the decisive battle was expected. Accordingly, at an early hour the front was sought by the undersigned, as by others. The same dense fog prevailed as on previous mornings. The enemy having been so destructively repelled from Marye's Hill on the day before, would not again essay that point, it was supposed, but concentrate upon the centre and right. And more effectually to frustrate anything like an attempt by surprise, under cover of the fog, to carry the heights occupied by the Whitworth and the remaining large Parrott, the short-range guns of Major Nelson's battalion were adjusted to sweep the approaches to those heights, and officers and men were kept on the alert at all the batteries. Nothing, however, occurred, except desultory firing. As the fog cleared up, the enemy appeared in full array along and near the river road, but comparatively inactive, as if, in some sort, respecting the Christian Sabbath. To watch their movements and counteract them by occasional shots, &c., was the course adopted on our part. As the day progressed circumstances seemed to indicate a purpose by the enemy to throw a heavy force against and beyond our right flank, and the more adequately to meet the request of General Jackson the day before for stronger artillery there, the undersigned obtained the commanding General's sanction to the transfer of Lane's battery, save the Whitworth, from the extreme left to the extreme right. It was accordingly sent for, and marched several miles of the distance that night. On Monday, the 15th, the undersigned, supposing the still expected attack would be mainly directed against our right, proceeded thither for the purpose of posting Lane's battery and rendering other service. Having traversed the entire front between the left and right of General Jackson's corps, without meeting that commander, who had ridden, he was told, with the commanding General, the undersigned consulted other Generals there in command respecting positions to be occupied—especially General Stuart, whom he met at the defences on the hill near where the railroad emerges from the wood about Hamilton's Crossing. Having thus learned the localities in that quarter, he rode with Major Pelham and Captain Lane to select the best positions for Lane's guns.

Thus the morning passed, and the expected advance of the enemy remained unattempted. There was no serious movement, nor anything except distant and desultory firing. Nothing being likely to transpire, and all arrangements being made, the undersigned returned to the centre and learned that the other large Parrott had burst at about the fifty-fourth discharge, providentially, again, doing no damage.

On Tuesday, the 16th, calling early at general headquarters, the undersigned learned that information had been brought of some mysterious movement of the enemy, and, hastening to the front, he saw, with astonishment, their immense trains and vast masses collected on the opposite side of the river. Under cover of night, the monstrous

assailing host had stolen away to escape destruction. Nothing remained but to watch the discomfited multitude, and disturb their movements by an occasional shot from a long-range gun. A few of their most powerful pieces responded from time to time with shells well directed towards our post of observation, but doing no harm whatever.

The contest was over, and the campaign virtually closed. In the eventful conflict thus terminated all the batteries of the general reserve, as well as those of the two army corps, were posted on the lines, and though not called, by the enemy's mode of attack, to bear the brunt of close and concentrated action, they were all more or less, and some quite severely, under fire. Lane's and Ross', as of the best guns, were most in requisition and rendered most service. Milledge's were useful on the river, and with Major Pelham in his successful dash upon the enemy when menacing our right flank. Patterson's, with a section of Ross', under Major T. Jefferson Page, shared the defence of General Hood's front. And Kirkpatrick's and Massie's, under Major Nelson, rendered more secure the defences of Marye's Hill and the heights occupied by the large guns, and received a full share of the missiles hurled at the latter. No serious casualty was experienced among them.

Officers and men all behaved well, and were ready, promptly and patiently, to discharge whatever duty might be presented. Captains Nelson and Barnwell, and, under them, the two lieutenants and the men of Ell's battery, at the large Parrotts, well performed their part. And the several members of my staff are entitled to honorable mention for the zeal, energy and fortitude with which they passed through much danger, and performed, by night and by day, much labor.

In conclusion, the undersigned would record, as right and proper, an expression of gratitude for the divine guidance and guardianship under which these duties were discharged, and especially that so much was achieved by the army and its leaders, with so little to regret, and a loss so much less than usual to lament. He has the honor to be, with great respect,

Your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,  
*Brigadier General and Chief of Artillery.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL WILCOX.

HEADQUARTERS WILCOX'S BRIGADE, }  
December 24, 1862. }

Major THOMAS S. MILLS,  
*Assistant Adjutant General :*

SIR : I beg to submit herewith a brief report of the part borne by my brigade in the battle at Fredericksburg, on the 13th instant :

Since the arrival of the division in the vicinity of Fredericksburg, on the 23d ultimo, the brigade has been on the left of the division, and the extreme left of the army. And from that time till within a few days of the battle nothing of interest occurred, my command being occupied only in constructing, in part, one or two batteries on our front and picketing on the canal in front of the house of Dr. Taylor, and thence on the Rappahannock above, some three-fourths of a mile. The enemy's camps were visible on the far side of the Rappahannock upon our arrival, and increased perceptibly for several days afterwards.

It was not long before the enemy were seen to be engaged in constructing batteries at various points on the heights beyond the river, and immediately on its banks; new batteries daily appeared, till at length extending from a point a mile above Falmouth, at convenient intervals, they reached Fredericksburg, and thence even down the river some three or four miles. On a great part of this line there were two tiers of batteries, one on the first bank of the river, and the other on heights commanding a level plateau in rear of this bank. Most of the guns of these various batteries could be made to bear both upon the city of Fredericksburg and on our batteries that crowned the heights on this side of the Rappahannock. The lines of the enemy's batteries, following the inflections of the river, enabled them to dispose of their pieces so as to enfilade most of the streets of the town; even those at right angles were alike exposed.

The two armies continued thus confronting each other on the opposite banks of the river, each constructing batteries, and the hostile pickets in full view and in close proximity; the batteries scarcely fired a gun, and the pickets, by mutual and tacit understanding, refrained entirely from the use of their rifles. This condition of affairs continued from day to day, till at length each party, perhaps, became impatient from delay and eager for the fray.

On the morning of the 10th, nothing unusual appeared upon my part of the line; the enemy's batteries and our own were as inactive as before; the pickets were neither stronger nor weaker; the day passed off quietly, and at dark there was nothing to indicate, to the closest observer on my front, that the enemy was preparing for or meditating an attack. Nothing occurred in the early part of the night to give warning of the intended attack; but, about half past four, A. M., our signal guns were fired, upon hearing which, all

were aroused and the command placed under arms. Little before the dawn of day musketry was heard in the direction of and in Fredericksburg, and, after that, the fire of the enemy's batteries began. Repairing to the front of my line of pickets before it was clear day, I learned that there was none of the enemy's infantry any where visible.

The enemy's batteries continued to fire with much spirit, and, as far as I could see, entirely concentrated upon the town of Fredericksburg. Many women and children, in great fright, with husbands and servants, were fleeing from their homes at this early hour to escape the enemy's terrible shells and cannon balls. Soon after it was clear daylight, I moved my brigade up to the front and formed it in line of battle, under cover of the forest, and near the edge of an open field, fronting the river and the town, my left resting upon the river, one hundred and fifty yards to the left of Dr. Taylor's house, and then extending to the right across the road, on the right of Dr. Taylor's, leading into town, and thence along the base of the hill upon which Lane's battery, to the rear, was placed, crossed a deep ravine, and then bearing slightly to the rear of the Whitworth gun of Lane's battery, and then crossing another ravine, reached to Huger's battery, the right of my line. Four regiments occupied this line, and the fifth was held in rear of the centre of this line.

General Wright's brigade was on my right flank, the battery of Captain Lewis, attached to the brigade, was in position on a hill opposite to the ford between Falmouth and Fredericksburg.

The brigade remained all day quiet spectators of the enemy's fiendish and furious bombardment of Fredericksburg; many shots and shells were thrown into the woods occupied by my men, inflicting but a trifling loss, killing one and wounding two men of the eleventh Alabama regiment.

In the afternoon it was known that the enemy had succeeded in his efforts to throw pontoon bridges over the river, and that, both in the town and below, several bridges were being used by them for crossing over the troops. Late in the evening, Captain Lewis, seeing a column of the enemy's infantry advancing to cross the upper pontoon bridge, gave the order to his battery to fire upon them, this was instantly done, and with such effect as to drive over half of it back under cover of some houses. Later in the evening, the battery again fired upon artillery and cavalry that were in sight, and soon drove them off and out of view. This battery had orders to waste no ammunition, and to fire only when damage could be inflicted upon the enemy. The brigade slept under arms in line of battle, strong pickets being thrown to the front. The artillermen remained with their guns.

During Friday, the 12th, the brigade remained under arms and in position; shot and shell from the enemy's batteries fell at times near them, but without inflicting any loss. Lewis' battery, at various times during the day, fired at the enemy's batteries while crossing the river. About three, P. M., a column of infantry (one brigade) came in sight. Shot and shell were thrown upon the head of this column, causing much confusion in their ranks, and forcing them to change

their course, and take shelter behind houses. Later in the day, the battery fired upon cavalry crossing the ford; in each case damage was done the enemy, as his ambulances were seen to leave the field with wounded.

Again all slept under arms, (the night of the 12th,) with strong pickets in our front.

The early morn of the 13th was dark, and much obscured by a dense fog; at length, the rising sun dissipating the mist, about eight, A. M., musketry was heard on our right; this fire quickened, and artillery was also heard in the same direction. The rapidity and quantity of the musketry fire indicated that a general action had begun. The firing, at length, began to approach nearer us, the right of our left wing had become engaged, and the firing still continued, extending towards our left, reaching as far as its centre, and here it remained for a long time, approaching no nearer our position. The firing had now become general; musketry, artillery, and the bursting of shells are heard, varying at times in quantity and rapidity, but without any entire cessation till dark; at times it would appear to be more intense far to our right, and, then again, the centre and the left centre would seem to be the point where the enemy were concentrating their heaviest forces and making the most vigorous efforts to force our line. More artillery appeared to be used on this day than I had ever known before; frequently, during the continuance of this battle, I counted as many as fifty shots per minute.

During this long and intensely exciting day my brigade remained in line of battle, ready to meet any advance of the enemy or to hasten to any point of the line that might need support.

The battery of Captain Lewis lost no opportunity of firing upon the enemy's infantry and cavalry when in easy range; in all, it fired four hundred rounds.

The brigade lost, to-day, one killed and eight wounded. Lewis' battery, one killed and two wounded.

Although the brigade lost but few men by the enemy's artillery and none by the musket, it would seem to be almost incredible that the loss should have been so inconsiderable, for, from a point near a mile above Falmouth on a commanding height, there was a six gun battery of rifle pieces that enfiladed my line lower; down and nearer, on the slope of this hill, was a second battery that had the same fire upon them; and yet nearer and immediately on the banks of the river, and to the right of the two batteries above referred to, was another; and then again, on a very commanding hill, in rear of Falmouth, near the house of Miss Scott, was a battery of more than twenty pieces that bore upon us, and these of the heaviest rifle pieces; and down the river were one or two other batteries that could throw shot and shell far beyond our line; in these batteries, there could not have been less than fifty pieces that bore upon us.

The night of the 13th we were under arms, like the two previous nights, strong pickets being in our front. During the night, our pickets were heard to fire frequently in the direction of Fredericksburg.

The morning of the 14th was foggy, and, when it had been scattered by the rising sun, nothing was seen of the enemy in our front, save his distant line of cavalry videttes, as usual. The 14th passed off quietly, some few artillery shots during the day, and at intervals a little firing between the pickets. The night of the 14th and the day of the 15th passed off with little or no firing. The night of the 15th was dark, windy and rainy, and the morning of the 16th foggy; when the fog disappeared it revealed the fact that the enemy had recrossed the river, nothing remaining on this side but a few of the wounded, the unburied dead, and a few of the infantry pickets, whom they had failed to relieve; these delivered themselves up to my command as prisoners.

My command now returned to their camp, having been under arms since the morning of the 11th. The lists of casualties having been previously forwarded, it will suffice in this report to state that the loss in my command was fifteen killed and wounded; of this number three were killed.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
C. M. WILCOX,  
*Brigadier General commanding, &c.*

# REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL FEATHERSTON.

HEADQUARTERS FEATHERSTON'S BRIGADE, Dec. 22, 1862.

THOMAS S. MILLS,

*Major and A. A. General :*

MAJOR: In obedience to orders, I submit the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the battle before Fredericksburg:

About five o'clock, A. M., on Thursday the 11th instant, at the firing of the signal guns, my brigade was formed and marched rapidly from its encampment to the line of battle previously designated for Major General Anderson's division, in front and to the left of Fredericksburg. My brigade formed the right of Anderson's division, and was posted on Thursday morning between the plank road and Hazel Run, in front of the town and some distance in rear of the Washington artillery. Here we remained during that day and night, protected from the artillery fire of the enemy by a continuous range of hills in our front.

On Friday morning, my brigade was moved to the left of the plank road, and our first position, between the plank road and Hazel Run, occupied by General Ransom's division.

During Friday and Friday night, we remained in position on the left of the plank road, about the same distance in rear of our batteries, where we were protected by the same continuous range of hills, from the enemy's artillery fire. About ten o'clock, A. M., on Saturday, we were ordered to advance in line of battle farther to the front, and halted about one hundred yards in rear of our batteries, on the left of the plank road, extending our line of battle up the river, in the direction of the Taylor house. Here we remained during the day, subjected to a very heavy converging fire from the enemy's artillery immediately in our front, and extending up the river to our left. My men were kept lying down during the day in an old road, protecting them as much as possible. The enemy's batteries immediately in front were numerous and skillfully served. Their batteries on our left completely enflamed our position, which they did not fail to see, and of which they took every advantage to avail themselves. The fire of the enemy's artillery could not have been more rapid or galling on any part of the line than that which was brought to bear on our position on Saturday. The right of my brigade was also within range of the fire of the enemy's small arms. My orders were to hold this position in support of the batteries immediately in my front, and to advance to the batteries when the enemy advanced with small arms immediately in my front. There was no considerable advance of the enemy's small arms in our immediate front during the entire engagement. We remained in this position Saturday night, Sunday, and Sunday night, Monday, and Monday night. At a late hour on Sunday night, I was advised by General Ransom that one of his brigade, would be withdrawn and sent across Hazel Run, down the river, by order of Lieutenant General Longstreet. I then threw forward to the rock fence

on the right of the plank road, the sixteenth Mississippi regiment, and five companies of the forty-sixth Mississippi regiment, (formerly the second battalion,) to fill the place vacated by some of the troops withdrawn, and to form a continuous line of battle. These troops, to wit: the sixteenth Mississippi and five companies of the forty-sixth Mississippi, Sunday night, Monday, and Monday night, remained in that position, declining on Monday night to be relieved by other regiments of my brigade.

On Tuesday morning, after the fact was ascertained that the enemy had recrossed the river, the troops were withdrawn, except the twelfth Mississippi regiment, which was left on picket in front. During the engagement of Saturday, the casualties in my brigade were forty-two killed and wounded, and one on Monday. Among the number, I regret to enumerate the loss of two valuable officers, Major Lee, of the forty-sixth, and Captain Fulkinson, of the sixteenth regiment, both seriously, but, it is believed, not dangerously wounded. The small list of casualties, under so heavy a converging fire from the enemy's numerous batteries, can only be accounted for, under Providence, by the fact that the men were kept lying down closely on the ground, taking advantage of every hill and crest as a protection. A full return of the killed and wounded has already been transmitted to your headquarters. During the entire engagement of five days and nights, both officers and men manifested great patience and endurance, under the hardships and privations, and were eager to the last for a continuance of the fight.

The officers of the medical, commissary and quartermaster's departments were prompt and efficient in discharging the duties of their several departments. In the absence of my regular staff officers, Captain W. R. Barksdale, assistant adjutant general, and Lieutenant A. N. Parker, aid-de-camp, (both absent on sick leave,) I feel greatly indebted to my volunteer aids, Captain C. H. Featherston and Mr. C. W. Graves, who attended me during the entire engagement, and who were ever ready, prompt and efficient in the execution of all orders, upon every part of the field.

I have the honor to be, Major,

Your obedient servant,

W. J. FEATHERSTON,

*Brigadier General commanding.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL KERSHAW.

HEADQUARTERS KERSHAW'S BRIGADE,  
Camp near Fredericksburg, December 26, 1862. }

To Major J. M. GOGGIN,  
*Assistant Adjutant General :*

MAJOR : I have the honor to submit a report of the operations of my command during the recent engagement:

On the morning of the 11th instant, by daylight, the brigade was formed in line of battle in the position assigned me, the right resting at the left of Howison's Hill, and the left near Howison's Hill, on Hazel Run. Ordered, during the day, to reinforce the picket of General Barksdale at Deep Run, the fifteenth regiment South Carolina volunteers (Colonel DeSaussure) was sent, but found the bridge at that point already completed and perfectly commanded by all the batteries on the other side. This regiment remained on picket until withdrawn to its former position, by order of the Major General commanding, on Friday morning, after a night of such intense cold as to cause the death of one man and disable, temporarily, others. With this exception, the troops were kept in position, strengthening our defences nightly, without any incident requiring notice, until Saturday, the 13th. About one o'clock of that day, I was directed to send two regiments into the city to the support of General Cobb, then engaged with part of his brigade at the foot of Marye's Hill, and, having called for reinforcements, I sent forward, at once, Col. John D. Kennedy, with his own (second regiment) and the eighth regiment South Carolina volunteers, Colonel E. T. Stackhouse commanding. Within a few minutes after, I was directed to take my entire command to the same point and assume command there. I had just moved when I was informed that General Cobb was wounded, and was directed by Major General McLaws to hasten forward in person immediately and take command. Leaving my staff to conduct the troops, I proceeded, as rapidly as possible, to the scene of action, reaching the position at Stevens' house at the moment that Colonel Kennedy arrived with the second and eighth regiments, just in time to meet a fresh assault of the enemy. The position was excellent. Marye's Hill, covered with our batteries, then occupied by the Washington artillery, Colonel Walton commanding, falls off abruptly towards Fredericksburg to a stone wall, which forms a terrace on the side of the hill, and the outer margin of the telegraph road, which winds along the foot of the hill. The road is about some twenty-five feet wide and is faced by a stone wall, about four feet high, on the city side. The road having been cut out of the side of the hill, (in many places,) this last wall is not visible above the surface of the ground. The ground falls off rapidly to almost a level surface, which extends about a hundred and fifty yards; then, with another abrupt fall of a few feet, to another plain, which extends some two hundred yards, and then falls off abruptly into a

wide ravine, which extends along the whole front of the city and discharges into Hazel Run. I found, on my arrival, that Cobb's brigade, Colonel McMillan commanding, occupied our entire front, and my troops could only get into position by doubling on them. This was accordingly done, and the formation along most of the line, during the engagement, was consequently four deep. As an evidence of the coolness of the command, I may mention here, that, notwithstanding that their fire was the most rapid and continuous I have ever witnessed, not a man was injured by the fire of his comrades. The first attack being repelled at a quarter to three o'clock, P. M., the third regiment, Colonel J. D. Nance, and seventh, Lieutenant Colonel Bland, came into position on the hill at Marye's house, with Colonel DeSaussure's fifteenth regiment South Carolina volunteers in reserve and under cover of the cemetery. James' third South Carolina battalion, (Lieutenant Colonel Rice commanding,) I left in position at Howison's Mill, to protect our right from any advance of the enemy up Hazel Run. While the third and seventh regiments were getting into position another fierce attack was sustained, and those regiments, especially the former, suffered severely. Colonel J. D. Nance, that gallant and efficient officer, fell at the head of his regiment, severely wounded in three places. Lieutenant Colonel Rutherford, upon whom the command devolved, was almost immediately shot down, dangerously wounded, as also was Major Moffat, the next in command. Captain Todd, the senior captain, upon assuming command, was dangerously, if not mortally, wounded, and his successor, Captain Summer, killed. Notwithstanding these unprecedented casualties, the regiment, without hesitation or confusion, gallantly held their position, under command of Capt. John H. G. Nance, assisted by my aid-de-camp, Lieutenant A. E. Doby, and in every attack repulsed the enemy on that flank, assisted as gallantly by the seventh regiment, immediately on their right. In the meantime, line after line of the enemy deployed in the ravine and advanced to the attack, at intervals of not more than fifteen minutes, until half past four o'clock, when there was a lull of about a half hour, during which a mass of artillery was placed in position in front of the town and opened upon our position. At this time I brought up Colonel De-Saussure's regiment. Our batteries on the hill were silent, having exhausted their ammunition, and the Washington artillery were relieved by a part of Colonel Alexander's battalion. Under cover of this artillery fire, the most formidable column of attack was formed, which, about five o'clock, emerged from the ravine, and, no longer impeded by our artillery, impetuously assailed our whole front. From this time, until after six o'clock, the attack was continuous, and the fire on both sides terrific. Some few, chiefly officers, got within eighty yards of our lines, but, in every instance, their lines were shattered by the time they got within one hundred paces. The firing gradually ceased, and, by seven o'clock, our pickets were established within eighty yards of those of the enemy. Our chief loss, after getting into position in the road, was from the fire of sharpshooters, who occupied some buildings on my left flank in the early part of the

engagement, and was only silenced by Captain Wallace, of the second regiment, directing a continuous fire of one company upon the buildings. General Cobb, I learn, was killed by a shot from that quarter. The regiments on the hill suffered most, as they were less perfectly covered. During the engagement, Colonel McMillan was reinforced by the arrival of the sixteenth Georgia regiment, and a brigade of General Ransom's command was also engaged; but as they did not report to me; I am unable to give any particulars in regard to them. That night we materially strengthened our position, and I more perfectly organized and arranged my command, fully expecting the attack to be renewed the next day. I sent the third regiment in reserve, in consideration of their heavy loss. At daylight in the morning, the enemy was in position, lying behind the first declivity in front, but the operations on both side were confined to skirmishing of sharp-shooters. We lost but one man during that day, but it is reported that we inflicted a loss upon the enemy (Syke's division) of one hundred and fifty. Monday morning discovered the pickets of the enemy behind rifle-pits, constructed during the night, along the edge of the ravine. From this position they were nearly all driven by our batteries, and nothing of interest occurred during the day. General Semmes relieved General Cobb's brigade Monday night. Tuesday morning, as soon as the haze lifted, the enemy's pickets being no longer visible, I sent out scouts from my own brigade to the left, and from General Semmes' to the right. The former soon returned, reporting the evacuation of the town, which the latter soon confirmed, with the additional information that the bridge had been removed. I sent forward two companies, one from each brigade, and afterwards two regiments, in obedience to the order of the Major General commanding, to occupy the town. A number of prisoners and a quantity of arms, ammunition, etc., were taken, the particulars of which have already been imparted. During these operations I was ably and gallantly assisted by Captain Holmes, A. A. G., and Lieutenant Doby, A. D. C., who were present on the field, in the active discharge of their duties. Lieut. J. A. Myers, ordnance officer, was at his post promptly replenishing our exhausted ammunition. Lieutenant W. M. Dwight, A. I. G., was disabled, from the injuries received at Maryland heights, but was on the field and received a contusion on the head from a shell. Colonel McMillan, commanding Cobb's brigade, rendered valuable assistance, and when offered the alternative of being relieved Saturday night, gallantly claimed the honor of remaining. All the regimental field officers and company commanders are entitled to commendation for coolness and courage, and their successful efforts to produce a deliberate and effective fire, under the most trying circumstances. Beside the field officers already mentioned as wounded, Major F. Gaillard, second regiment South Carolina volunteers, was struck in the face before he got into position, and was subsequently severely wounded while conveying directions, at my request, to the regiments in the rear. For particular mention of others who distinguished themselves in the engagement, I beg leave respectfully to refer to the reports of the commanders themselves, herewith submit-

ted. Captain G. B. Cuthbert's company, second regiment South Carolina volunteers, was thrown out by me on the edge of Hazel Run, on the 13th, in an exposed position, but one from which they could harass the enemy on their left flank. They held the position the whole day, exhausting their ammunition and effectively annoying the enemy. His loss was considerable, including two officers severely wounded. Captain Read's battery was posted on the hill, on the right of my first position, and did great damage to the advancing column of the enemy. They fired thirteen rounds of ammunition, affording excellent practice in the field. I will here remark that, during the engagement on Saturday, my command fired about fifty-five rounds per man. A large red and white battle flag, with the figure "I" in the centre, and an embroidered guidon flag of the sixtieth New York regiment are the trophies taken in battle by my command, and have already been forwarded to division headquarters. I append herewith a recapitulation of the losses sustained by my brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. KERSHAW,  
Brigadier General commanding.

#### LIST OF CASUALTIES IN KERSHAW'S BRIGADE.

BRIGADES.	KILLED.		WOUNDED.		TOTAL.		AGGREGATE.	REMARKS.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.		
2d S. C. Reg't.	.....	6	3	53	3	59	62	
3d " .....	5	20	14	124	19	144	163	
7th " .....	.....	4	6	51	6	55	61	
8th " .....	.....	2	4	25	.....	27	31	
15th " .....	.....	1	2	50	.....	52	54	
James' Batl'n..	.....	1	.....	1	.....	2	2	
	5	34	29	304	34	339	373	

One missing—  
supposed to have  
been killed while  
on picket.

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL WRIGHT.

HEADQUARTERS WRIGHT'S BRIGADE, ANDERSON'S DIVISION, }  
Camp near Fredericksburg, December 24, 1862. }

Major THOMAS S. MILLS, *A. A. G. Division*:

MAJOR: In compliance with circular issued from division headquarters on December 20th, I herewith transmit a report of the part taken by my brigade in the action at Fredericksburg. At early dawn on the morning of the 11th instant, my brigade was put under arms and marched to a position in the rear of our redoubts on the left of the plank road, and there formed in line of battle, my right resting on General Mahone's left, and my left upon General Wilcox's right. In this position we remained until the morning of the 16th, when, the enemy having retired across the river, I fell back to my former and present camp.

On the morning of the 11th, when the enemy opened his batteries upon the town, preparatory to crossing the river, the third Georgia regiment was on picket duty on the river, at the upper edge of the town. This regiment retained its position during the whole day, subjected to a most galling fire from the enemy's batteries. At five o'clock, in the evening of that day, I received a communication from Colonel E. J. Walker, commanding the regiment, informing me that the enemy had effected the building of one or more bridges and had crossed a considerable force into the town on his right, compelling the eighth Florida regiment, which was on picket duty immediately on his right, to fall back, and that, from the sound of musketry, he was led to believe that General Barksdale's brigade, also on picket duty in the town, had retired to our line of battle, and enquiring what he (Colonel Walker) should do. I immediately sent him orders to hold his position at all hazards until morning, and if then he should become satisfied that General Barksdale's brigade had retired, and the enemy should show an imposing force on this side of the river, to fall back in order to my line, destroying the bridges over the canal. At eight o'clock next morning Colonel Walker fell back to my line, having accomplished the complete destruction of the canal bridges—General Barksdale having, as he supposed the night before, previously fallen back to our line of batteries. Colonel Walker's loss, during the day's bombardment, was one man killed and one slightly wounded. On Friday evening, the 12th instant, the second Georgia battalion, of my brigade, under the command of Captain C. J. Moffat, was ordered on picket duty in front of the Stansbury house, where it remained until Saturday evening, when it was relieved by the forty-eighth Georgia regiment, Captain Hall commanding. During the fight of Saturday, Captain Moffat lost one man killed and one wounded. No other casualties occurred in my command during the action.

While the officers and men of my brigade had no opportunity to display the courage and gallantry which has heretofore marked their

conduct in all the battles in which they have been engaged, their patient and protracted "*lying in wait*" during the six days they were under arms, exposed to the rigors of the severe cold weather and the fire of the enemy's batteries, has given me increased confidence in their character as veteran soldiers, who are alike equal to the trials of actual battle and of waiting under the enemy's guns for any emergency which might require their services.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. R. WRIGHT,

*Brigadier General commanding Brigade.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL MAHONE.

HEADQUARTERS MAHONE'S BRIGADE, ANDERSON'S DIVISION, }  
December 21, 1862. }

To Major T. S. MILLS,  
*Assistant Adjutant General, Anderson's Division:*

MAJOR: In response to the call from division headquarters, I beg to present the following statement of the operations of this brigade in the late bombardment and battle of Fredericksburg:

Promptly after the signal of alarm, Thursday, the 11th instant, the brigade was placed in the position assigned it by the division commander, immediately in rear of the line of battle selected in the event of any attack upon our own front.

For the most part, the brigade continued under arms in this position during the period of the fight, and, in fact, until Tuesday, the 16th instant, when the enemy evacuated Fredericksburg and recrossed the Rappahannock. In the meantime, however, it always had a regiment, and sometimes two, in advance of the batteries on the front, which were exposed to the enemy's artillery fire, and which, though active, and especially on Saturday and Sunday, occasioned but eight casualties in the brigade. It may not be amiss to add, that much work, in the erection of batteries and rifle-pits, was performed by the troops of the brigade, during the four days of the battle; among these works may be mentioned the one, as of special advantage, in dislodging the enemy from behind the hills on the right of the plank road.

I am, Major, very respectfully your obedient servant,  
WILLIAM MAHONE,  
*Brigadier General.*

# REPORT OF COLONEL MILLER OF COBB'S BRIGADE.

BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS, FREDERICKSBURG, VA., }  
December 20, 1862. }

Major JAMES M. GOGGIN,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

I have the honor to report to you the part taken by this brigade in the battle of Fredericksburg:

On the morning of the 11th instant, at five o'clock, the brigade was put under arms and in position, and so remained until seven o'clock, P. M., when the eighteenth and twenty-fourth Georgia regiments and Phillips' legion were marched into Fredericksburg by General Cobb, to relieve General Barksdale, and took position in our line of battle in the road along the foot of Marye's Hill, crossing the telegraph road, by which the enemy advanced; the legion on the left, twenty-fourth Georgia in the centre, and eighteenth on the right. The men lay on their arms during the night. Our pickets and scouts took fifteen prisoners. Close and heavy skirmishing was kept up during Friday, the 12th, and on that night we again rested on our arms.

At daybreak on the 13th, skirmishing again commenced, accompanied by the enemy's shells. This was kept up continually until about eleven o'clock, A. M., when the advance of the enemy drove in our pickets, and his column approached the left of our line by the telegraph road and deployed towards our right. He had succeeded in planting three stands of colors along our front, and when his column had been deployed about two-thirds of the distance on his line, our well-directed fire had so thinned his ranks that the survivors retreated. General Cobb, whose fall we so much deplore, lived to see this first signal repulse and the bravery of the troops he so well commanded. About twelve or fifteen minutes thereafter General Cobb fell, mortally wounded, and I took command of the brigade. Soon another column, heavier than the first, advanced in our front, and moved steadily forward to their colors, near our centre. As the column approached, I directed the small arms to cease until the enemy should get nearer. So soon as he got within certain range, our fire mowed down his ranks, until they faltered and the survivors retreated. They were met by a strong reinforcement and again advanced upon us in heavier force, and this time the slaughter in their ranks was terrific, and we again drove them back. Column after column was brought up during the afternoon, and the battle continued until after dark. In every attack the enemy was repulsed with immense slaughter. During the afternoon a courier informed me that you had sent the sixteenth Georgia regiment to the mill, to await orders. I sent for that regiment and placed it on our right, to strengthen and protect that point, which it held during the remainder of the engagement. We rested on our arms that night and throughout the next day. Sunday, the 14th, a close, heavy and continuous skirmish fire was kept up. On Sunday night we were relieved by General Semmes.

I cannot speak in too high terms of the cool bravery of both officers and men, and the promptness and cheerfulness with which they obeyed and executed all orders. The heaps of slain in our front tell best how well they acted their part.

Annexed is a list of killed and wounded.

Very respectfully, &c., &c.,

ROBERT M. MILLER,

*Colonel commanding brigade.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL PERRY.

HEADQUARTERS PERRY'S BRIGADE, December 18, 1862.

Major THOMAS S. MILLS,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to enclose to you the reports of commanders of the Donaldsonville artillery battery and the eighth Florida regiment, the only portions of my brigade engaged in the recent battle on the Rappahannock river:

The eighth Florida regiment having been detailed for picket duty and placed temporarily under command of Brigadier General Barksdale, commanding the picket forces at Fredericksburg, I am unable to give additional information to that contained in Captain Lang's report, to which I call your attention. I addressed a note to Brigadier General Barksdale, relative to three companies of this regiment, which were detailed from the regiment by General Barksdale and assigned to a position apart from the regiment. General Barksdale replied that they were probably taken prisoners by the enemy. I have been able to obtain no further information upon the subject. I respectfully call to the attention of the General the gallant conduct of the Donaldsonville battery throughout the entire engagement. Both officers and men stood bravely and faithfully at their posts, and, while exposed to an unusually heavy fire, the guns were handled with masterly skill and with great effect.

The loss in the brigade is ninety-four killed, wounded and missing. Of this number, eight were killed, forty-three wounded and forty-three missing. Of these, the eighth Florida regiment lost seven killed, thirty-seven wounded and forty-three missing. The fifth Florida regiment had one wounded. The battery had one killed and five wounded.

I have the honor, Major, to be very respectfully, &c.,  
E. A. PERRY,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

# REPORT OF COLONEL HALL, COMMANDING COOK'S BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS COCKE'S BRIGADE, December 17, 1862.

CAPTAIN: Early on the morning of the 11th instant, the brigade, under the command of General Cooke, was ordered to the front, opposite Fredericksburg, where we remained in position until about twelve o'clock, Saturday the 13th, at which time the engagement was going on in our front.

The brigade was formed in line of battle as follows: The twenty-seventh on the right, forty-eighth next, fifteenth on the left. We moved into action by regiments. After advancing about two hundred yards, under a heavy fire of shell and musketry, we arrived at the crest of Willis' Hill, which overlooks the battle-field, on which hill several batteries were placed.

With the exception of the twenty-seventh, the brigade was halted on the crest of the hill, and delivered its fire on the advancing column of the enemy, who was then engaged in making a furious assault on our front line, which was covered by a long stone wall at the foot of the hill; which assault, on the arrival of the brigade, was repulsed, with great loss to the enemy. The enemy, that time, succeeded in getting up to within forty yards of the wall.

After the repulse of the enemy, the forty-sixth was moved down the hill behind the fence, supporting Cobb's brigade. The twenty-seventh and forty-sixth remained behind the fence, and the forty-eighth and fifteenth on the top of the hill, all day.

Six different times during the day did the enemy advance his heavily reinforced columns, and each time was driven back, with immense loss. The action ceased at night, when the brigade was withdrawn and resumed the position they occupied previous to the action.

I regret to have to state that our brave commander was severely wounded early in the action.

It gives me great pleasure to state that, without exception, the conduct of the different regiments composing this brigade was deserving of the most unqualified approbation.

No engagement having taken place the next day, the commanders of the different regiments were ordered to entrench themselves that night, and before day each had opened ditches sufficient to cover their whole commands; and, the night after, two additional works were completed, sufficient for two more regiments.

On Sunday morning the brigade was relieved by General Jenkins, and ordered back to camp.

I regret to say the loss of the brigade was heavy. A correct list of casualties will be handed in.

I have the honor to be,

E. D. HALL,  
Colonel commanding Cook's Brigade.

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL LAW.

BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS, December 17, 1862.

Major W. H. SULLY, A. A. G.:

I have the honor to report the part taken by my command in the engagement near Fredericksburg, on Saturday, December 13, 1862:

On the morning of the 13th, my brigade formed a portion of the second or reserve line, extending along the range of hills from the vicinity of Hamilton's Crossing to Dr. Reynolds' house. On the plateau, directly in front of the position occupied by my brigade, and about five hundred yards distant, the skirt of timber bordering on Deep Run, from its confluence with the Rappahannock, abruptly terminates. From this point to the river the channel of the run becomes gradually wider and deeper, its general direction being almost perpendicular to our own line and that of the enemy, on the Bowling Green road. I received orders, during the morning, from Major General Hood, commanding the division, to render assistance to Major General A. P. Hill's troops, in the event it should be required; and was ordered by General Hill to support Brigadier General Pender, who held the left of the first line, to my front and right. At three o'clock in the afternoon a force of the enemy defiled from the wood on Deep Run and, forming into line of battle, advanced upon Latimer's battery, which was posted on the plateau on General Pender's left and supported by one of his regiments. Perceiving this attack, I moved my brigade forward to the edge of the timber, in rear of the battery. Detaching the fifty-seventh and fifty-fourth North Carolina regiments, I advanced with them to attack the enemy, who had now gained the line of the railroad, which crosses the plateau directly in front of the battery and about two hundred yards from it. The enemy was promptly driven from the railroad by the fifty-seventh North Carolina, which was in advance, and the regiment continued to move steadily forward to within three hundred yards of the Bowling Green road, driving his infantry before it. During the action a body of the enemy opened fire from the wood bordering the run, upon the left of the advancing line. This was promptly checked by a fire from the left of the fifty-seventh and from the fifty-fourth, which changed front obliquely to the left in order to face the wood. In the meantime, the fourth Alabama had been brought forward in front of the battery as a support. Having accomplished my purpose of driving the enemy from the vicinity of the battery, I ordered the two regiments in advance to retire and take position on the railroad, which they held until after dark, when they were relieved by the sixth North Carolina. The conduct of the fifty-seventh and fifty-fourth North Carolina regiments was admirable. I cannot speak too highly of their steady courage in advancing, and the coolness with which they retired to the line of railroad when ordered. Colonel Godwin, commanding the fifty-seventh, and Colonel McDowell, commanding

the fifty-fourth, ably assisted by Lieutenant Colonels Jones and Mur-chison, handled their commands with great skill and coolness. The officers of my staff, Captain Terrell, assistant adjutant general, and Lieutenant Capons, aid-de-camp, were, as usual, conspicuous for gallantry and usefulness, contributing materially by their exertions to the good conduct of the troops. It is with deep sorrow that I report the death of private V. S. Smith, of the fourth Alabama regiment, an acting officer on my staff. Alabama never bore a braver son, and our country's cause has never received the sacrifice of a manlier spirit. He fell, where the hour of danger always found him, at his post. The following is a recapitulation of the loss of the brigade:

REGIMENT.	KILLED.	WOUNDED.	MISSING.
Fifty-seventh North Carolina.....	32	90	2
Fifty-fourth North Carolina.....	9	35	3
Sixth North Carolina.....	5	19	.....
Fourth Alabama.....	4	18	.....
Forty-fourth Alabama.....		2	.....
Total.....	50	164	5

I am, Major, very respectfully,  
E. M. LAW, *Brigadier General.*

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL SEMMES.

HEADQUARTERS SEMMES' BRIGADE,  
Camp near Fredericksburg, December 22, 1862. }

Major J. M. GOGGIN, A. A. G.:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report herewith a list of the casualties in my brigade in the battle of Fredericksburg, from the 11th to the 15th, inclusive. Except when posted in the road, at the foot of Marye's Hill, on the 14th and 15th, my brigade was not under fire from small arms. It was only exposed to the fire of the enemy's artillery, from which it suffered but little.

I am, Major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
PAUL J. SEMMES,  
*Brigadier General.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL PAXTON.

HEADQUARTERS PAXTON'S BRIGADE, JACKSON'S DIVISION, }  
Camp near Corbin's Farm, December 24, 1862. }

Captain W. T. TALIAFERRO,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

CAPTAIN: In pursuance of the order from the division commander to report the participation of my brigade in the battle near Fredericksburg, I have the honor to state that my brigade, consisting of the second, fourth, fifth, twenty-seventh and thirty-third Virginia regiments and Carpenter's battery, numbering in all about one hundred and twenty-three officers and eleven hundred men, marched from its encampment near Guineas Depot, on Friday morning, the 12th instant, at daybreak. After reaching the battle-field, and frequent changes of positions, when the engagement commenced, my brigade occupied a position near the crest of the hill, some four hundred yards in the rear of General Gregg's brigade, of A. P. Hill's division, my right resting on the left of Ewell's division. My orders were to support General Gregg, and be governed in my action by his movements. Upon a report from my orderly, Mr. F. C. Cox, whom I had sent forward to give me information, that Gregg's brigade was moving, I ordered my brigade to the front in line of battle. About the time of reaching General Gregg's position, the second Virginia regiment, occupying the right of my line, came in view of the enemy, and, under the order of Captain J. Q. A. Nadenbousch, commanding the regiment, filed obliquely to the right and rear, but scarcely effected its change of position when it was fired upon by the enemy. Expecting, from the indications, that my troops would be engaged in this position, I proceeded to bring forward the fifth and fourth regiments at double-quick, and post them upon the right of the second regiment, and to put the twenty-seventh and thirty-third regiments in position upon its left. These dispositions, however, were not accomplished until the firing ceased, the enemy having been gallantly repulsed by the second regiment. Soon after I changed my position, and occupied the military road. Whilst there, I found that troops were falling back in disorder past the right of my line, when I deemed it prudent to move some three hundred yards to the right, upon the road, to guard against an advance of the enemy in that direction. Again I changed position, and occupied the line of the fence in front. That night my brigade slept on their arms on the military road, and the next morning before daylight, in pursuance of an order from the division commander, took a position on the railroad, my right resting opposite the position which my left had occupied on the military road. Here the day passed off quietly, with the exception of occasional firing between the pickets. Carpenter's battery was detached from my brigade on the 12th, and was not under my orders during the engage-

ment. A report of its participation in the engagement by Lieutenant McKendree, commanding, is transmitted herewith.

I am much indebted to my regimental officers, Captains Nadenbousch and Colston, acting field officers of the second Virginia regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Gardiner and Major Terry, fourth Virginia regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Williams and Captain Newton, fifth Virginia regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Edmondson and Major Shriver, forty-seventh Virginia regiment, and Colonel Lee, thirty-third Virginia regiment, for the exhibition of great gallantry, skill and coolness in the discharge of their duties. Lieutenant Colonel Gardiner, after having passed unhurt, and distinguished for his gallantry through all the battles of the campaign, (Port Republic, Richmond, Cedar Mountain, Manassas and Sharpsburg,) fell, at the head of his regiment, severely, if not fatally, wounded. To Adjutant C. S. Arnall, fifth Virginia regiment, acting as my assistant adjutant general, the highest praise is due for his gallant and energetic discharge of the duties incident to the position. To the rank and file of my command I am especially grateful, for the courage, fidelity and promptness exhibited in obeying my orders. My brigade sustained a loss of four killed, sixty-nine wounded, one missing; total, seventy-four. The reports of regimental and battery commanders, with lists of casualties, are transmitted herewith.

Respectfully,

E. F. PAXTON,  
*Brigadier General.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL HOKE, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS TRIMBLE'S BRIGADE, Dec. 19, 1862.

Major S. HALE,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant General, Ewell's Division:*

MAJOR: I respectfully report that on Saturday, 13th of this month, I received orders from General Early, to form my brigade immediately behind General Hays' brigade, with my right resting upon the Richmond and Fredericksburg railroad, at Hamilton's Crossing, about four miles from Fredericksburg. I remained in this position for about two hours, under a very heavy cannonading, and lost a number of men in this place. The infantry firing at the front became quite heavy, and General Early ordered me to move my brigade by the left flank, and let my right rest upon the left of General Hays. I had scarcely gotten in this position before he ordered me to the front to the support of General Archer. I moved promptly and steadily to the front, and found General Archer had been driven back, and the enemy had occupied the woods upon the top of the hill. I soon drove them from this position, and found, upon getting to the entrenchments at the edge of the woods, that they had retreated to the railroad, in which place they had held reserves. I saw that it would not do to allow them to remain in the railroad, as that point commanded a large portion of our entrenchments at the edge of the woods, and that I would lose from their sharpshooters, so I immediately ordered a charge, and drove them from their place, killing about two hundred, and wounding a large number, one hundred of whom fell into my hands, I must have wounded quite a number of the enemy at this point who were able to make their escape, as I was immediately upon them. I also captured about three hundred prisoners. I had brought from this point about four hundred stand of arms, and left a number across the railroad. After driving them from the railroad, I followed them to the fence beyond the road, and at this point halted to see if I could go farther. While I was in this position, the main line of the enemy gave back about fifty yards, and my opinion is, that if a brigade had been upon my right we could have driven the whole line. I remained in this position for some time, to see if any other forces were coming forward, and in the meantime the enemy threw a brigade down the river road, preparatory to making an attack upon my right flank, and seeing my position would soon become a critical one, I ordered the twenty-first North Carolina and twenty-first Georgia regiments and first North Carolina battalion back to the railroad, under Lieutenant Colonel Harper, with orders to hold it to the last, and ordered the fifteenth Alabama and twelfth Georgia regiments back to the entrenchments at the edge of the woods, all of which was done effectually and promptly, and with a very slight loss. My loss in this charge and falling back, was only two men killed and about thirty wounded, most of which were very slight. Lieutenant Colonel Scott was killed

while falling back to the woods. He acted most gallantly, and did his duty nobly. I held my position in the railroad, and at the edge of the woods, until Monday morning, 15th, at which time I was relieved by Gen. D. H. Hill's troops. I cannot say too much in praise of the officers and men under my command; all did their duty nobly, and went into the fight with a spirit of determination, and it would be doing injustice to note any one particularly. Captain A. Hoffman, acting ordnance officer, was of great service to me upon the field. My tabular report of killed and wounded has been sent in. The report of the action of the battery attached to this brigade will be made by Captain Latimer, who was acting chief of artillery on that day.

Very respectfully,

R. F. HOKE,  
*Colonel commanding Brigade.*

Official copy:

S. HALE, *Acting Assistant Adjutant General.*

REPORT OF COLONEL WALKER, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS EARLY'S BRIGADE, }  
December 26th, 1862. }

Major S. HALE,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant General:*

I have the honor to report the operations of Early's brigade in the battle near Fredericksburg, on the 13th instant:

We were placed in position by General Early, commanding division, in the second line of battle, supporting A. P. Hill's division. The action had not continued over half an hour, before I received an order from General Early (through Major Wilson, volunteer aid,) to advance at double-quick, as the enemy had cut their way through the first line, and were advancing. I put the brigade in motion, and met the enemy about the middle of the woods, but they fell back as we came up, and we continued to press them closely, driving them across the railroad, and following them some distance beyond into the open field. When we reached the railroad there was no support on our left, and a large column of Federal infantry were moving across the railroad, about four hundred yards to our left, and entering the woods. Fearing to advance further to our front, I drew my command back to the railroad and held that position, after detailing Lieutenant Colonel Terrill, with the thirteenth Virginia, to deploy his regiment on our left flank, and directing him to advance under cover of the timber to engage the enemy's column on our left upon the flank. This was done promptly, and Thomas' brigade, of A. P. Hill's division, engaging them, in front about the same time, they fell back in good order, but scarcely firing a gun in their retreat. The two fires told severely upon them, as the large number of dead and wounded left on that part of the field clearly showed. After this column of the enemy fell back, there was for some time no body of their troops in sight, but not deeming it prudent to give up the advantage of our position by advancing in pursuit over the open plain, I continued to hold the railroad for the remainder of the evening without any molestation from the enemy, further than by forming a fresh line of troops in sight, but out of our range, and throwing out skirmishers, who kept up a straggling fire until night. After dark, I left pickets on the railroad, and withdrew my command back into the woods about one hundred and fifty yards, and bivouacked for the night.

Early the next morning, we were relieved by Paxton's brigade and joined the division.

Our loss was one hundred and fifty-seven in killed and wounded. I cannot close without expressing my admiration for the manner in which this brigade performed its duty, and the gallantry and bravery

exhibited by both officers and men. I had no trouble in getting them to fight, but a good deal to get *them to stop*, when in my opinion it was imprudent to go further.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

J. A. WALKER,  
Colonel commanding Brigade.

Official copy:

S. HALE, Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL HAYS.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST LOUISIANA BRIGADE, }  
December 19, 1862. }

To Major HALE,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: On arriving at Hamilton's Crossing, on the Richmond and Fredericksburg railroad, Saturday, the 13th instant, about ten o'clock, I proceeded to place my brigade, according to orders, in line of battle, with my right resting on the railroad and the line extended on the road leading to Spotsylvania Court-House. Here I was directed to remain, and to take advantage of the shelter afforded by the hills on the north.

A short while before noon an order was conveyed to me to advance in line, through the woods, towards the front. I accordingly put my line in motion. While advancing, I was informed of the existence of a ditch on the crest of the hill overlooking the river bottom, and directed to occupy it as a rifle-pit. But, on reaching the place, I discovered other troops in possession of the ditch, and accordingly halted my line a few yards in their rear, in readiness to advance in support. In this position I continued the remainder of the day and the night following.

The next morning, the 14th instant, at dawn, my brigade was moved several hundred yards to the left, on a line with the ditch above referred to, in rear of and supporting General Paxton's brigade, then occupying the railroad. While in this position, I was directed to send a regiment to fill up a gap in the line along the railroad, between the brigades of General Paxton and General Trimble, then commanded by Colonel Hoke. The seventh Louisiana regiment was sent to complete this line. The remainder of the brigade continued to occupy the line indicated during Sunday, the 14th instant, and the night succeeding.

In the morning following, the 15th instant, I resumed my original place, near Hamilton's Crossing, and there remained until the 16th instant, when I was ordered to occupy a line in rear of the batteries posted on the hill, with my right resting on the railroad. I had barely reached my position, when, the retreat of the enemy being discovered, I was ordered back to the crossing, and, in a short time thereafter, took up the line of march in the direction of Port Royal.

My loss, amounting to nine killed, forty-four wounded, and one missing, was inflicted by the enemy's batteries, while advancing in line, on the 13th instant, to the brow of the hill in front.

I have to commend the zealous promptness of officers and men in obeying my orders, and the earnest desire they evinced to meet the enemy. And, I am happy to add, there was less straggling during

the several days of the recent engagements, than I have ever known. To Captain New and Lieutenant Macon, of my staff, I am indebted for the cheerful discharge of their respective duties.

HARRY T. HAYS,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

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## REPORT OF COLONEL KENNEDY COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND SOUTH CAROLINA REGIMENT, }  
December 20, 1862. }

Captain C. H. HOLMES,

*Assistant Adjutant General, Kershaw's Brigade :*

CAPTAIN : Between twelve and one o'clock on Saturday, the 13th ultimo, Lieutenant Dwight, of General Kershaw's staff, ordered me to take my regiment, the second, and the eighth, Captain Stackhouse, to the support of General Cobb, on the telegraph road. I moved out, left in front, the eighth following. In rear of the extreme right battery of Colonel Walton's artillery (on Fuller's Hill) I halted the second regiment until Captain Stackhouse closed up. I then moved the two regiments into the field to the left of the wood, (in which I had halted,) fronted, and advanced in line of battle, making the eighth the battalion of direction, and obliquing to the right, so as throw the two commands between the two right batteries of the Washington artillery (Colonel Walton's) on the hill and the Marye house. The fire of shell and small arms was terrific, raking the whole field. The men moved forward in fine style, obeying promptly every command issued. When I arrived at the crest of the hill I gave the command "double-quick," and moved the two regiments to the stone fence on the telegraph road where General Cobb was posted. One volley was fired before reaching it, and that by the eighth regiment. The eighth regiment, supported a portion of General Cobb's brigade, to the right, and the second was disposed as follows: three companies on the left of the eighth, one company and the half of another at the small house near the centre of General Cobb's line, (where General Kershaw made his headquarters,) three companies and a half to the left of this house, behind a stone wall, in rear of the twenty-fourth Georgia regiment. Captain Pulliam; with his company, came up shortly after this disposition of my command, and was sent to a stone fence, where the Philips' legion (of General Cobb's brigade) was posted, to the left of the twenty-fourth Georgia, and, although later in the action than the rest of my regiment, (having failed to hear the order to move out of the trenches,) did fine execution. The action continuing until after dark, advance after advance of the foe was repelled. The whole regiment acted with cool daring and high courage; men never did their duty more thoroughly. My position being in the centre, I appointed Captain Wallace to superintend the operation of the left wing, and Captain Leitner the three companies on the right. I gave my attention to the operations of both, and of the centre. These officers deserve notice for their deliberative, prompt execution of every order. Major Gaillard was slightly wounded in advancing across the field, commanding the second South Carolina regiment, (I, acting as commander of both battalions, the second and eighth.) Shortly after reaching

the stone wall, General Kershaw detailed him to convey some order, and, in executing the commission, he was wounded in the foot and compelled to leave the field. Thus I was deprived of his valuable assistance, and the regiment of that gallant bearing which he has exhibited on so many fields. Of the conduct of Captain Wallace, acting as field officer, I cannot speak too highly; he elicited the highest admiration, and is deserving of special mention. No braver man ever trod the field of battle. Captain Cuthbert's company had been deployed to the right of the creek early in the morning, and remaining until after dark, doing execution in the ranks of the enemy. The exalted courage, enthusiasm and chivalric daring of its commanding officer are always guarantees of its good success. Lieutenants Elliott and Fishburn, of this company, were wounded, gallantly discharging their duty. Captains Pulliam, Moore, Cunningham, Graham, and Lieutenants Maxwell, Brown, Perry and Wallace, commanding companies, and their lieutenants, all acted with conspicuous bravery, and deserve my thanks for their hearty co-operation. It is useless to mention individual instances of courage, they are too numerous; suffice it to say, the regiment never acted with more coolness. Adjutant Sill was of every assistance to me, and exhibited great gallantry. Mr. B. Moses, of company D, acting as orderly to me, bore himself well, but was disabled before reaching the wall and compelled to retire. S. P. Boozer, of company F, acting as same, coolly conveyed several orders to different parts of the regiment, and was wounded by my side. His demeanor was inspiring. Captain Stackhouse, while under my command, (which was until General Kershaw reached the stone wall and assumed command,) acted deliberately and commanded his men with success and bravery. Number of officers and men carried into action, three hundred and fifty. Officers killed, none; men killed, six. Officers wounded, seven; men wounded, fifty-five. Total killed and wounded, sixty-two.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN D. KENNEDY,  
Colonel commanding second S. C. V.

# REPORT OF COLONEL EVANS, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS LAWTON'S BRIGADE,  
Near Port Royal, Va., Dec. 19, 1862. }

Major S. HALE,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant General :*

MAJOR: On the 13th instant, about nine o'clock, A. M., Lawton's brigade, Colonel E. N. Atkinson commanding, was formed in line of battle in a wood about three-fourths of a mile west of the railroad, nearly opposite Hamilton's Crossing, below Fredericksburg, Virginia, the right resting on the left of another brigade of Ewell's division, the thirteenth Georgia, Colonel J. M. Smith commanding, being the extreme right, and successively towards the left the sixtieth Georgia, (Colonel W. H. Stiles,) sixty-first Georgia, (Colonel J. H. Lamar,) thirty-eighth Georgia, (Captain William McLeod,) thirty-first Georgia, (Colonel C. A. Evans,) and the twenty-sixth Georgia, (Captain Grace,) being six regiments, numbering about two thousand rank and file. While thus resting in line the shells of the enemy fell upon the regiments on the right, wounding several, but was borne without flinching by men who, in many engagements, have proven themselves not deficient in courage or patriotism. About half-past one o'clock the brigade was ordered forward, and all the regiments advanced at once, in line, except the thirteenth Georgia. The failure of this regiment to move at the proper time is subject to the following explanation: While in line this regiment rested upon the slope of a hill intervening between it and the other regiments, which prevented Colonel Smith from observing, at the time, the forward movement of the brigade, and receiving no order to advance, our line passed out of sight before he was aware that he had been left behind. Receiving orders, communicated by yourself soon afterwards, he advanced to rejoin the brigade, but was too late to participate in the action. Subsequently, being ordered to join Colonel Hoke, commanding Trimble's brigade, he placed his regiment in a trench near the edge of the field, on Colonel Hoke's left, where he remained until Monday morning. In the meantime, the brigade moving forward about two hundred and fifty yards, Captain Grace, commanding the twenty-sixth Georgia, on the left, encountered the enemy, being apprised of their proximity to him by a volley poured into his ranks, which for a moment checked his advance. But quickly recovering, the regiment delivered its fire, reloaded, and, advancing, drove the enemy before them through the woods. Having encountered the enemy so soon they became for the time separated from the brigade, and on reaching the ditch which skirted the edge of the woods, they observed the remaining regiments far out on the plain. Here Captain Grace was directed to halt his command, and not advance into the open field. The remaining four regiments, consisting of the sixtieth Georgia, (Colonel Stiles,) sixty-first Georgia, (Colonel Lamar,) thirty-eighth Georgia, (Captain

McLeod,) and thirty-first Georgia, (Colonel Evans,) pushing ahead, came upon the enemy in a minute of time after they were first encountered by Captain Grace, receiving their fire without producing scarcely a perceptible check, fired in return, and, with loud cheers, dashed forward. From this time the contest consisted of but a series of temporary *halts* made by the enemy, only to be driven away from their positions. At the railroad the enemy made their most determined resistance, and for a few minutes poured a heavy fire into our line. Seeing that a charge was the most effectual plan to dislodge them, the order was given, and so rapidly accomplished that many of the enemy were captured, and a few, in their attempts to get away, received the application of the bayonet. As an incident of the battle, I desire to state that one of the enemy, after surrendering, leveled his gun to fire at our passing line, but a bayonet thrust from the hands of Captain W. D. Wood, of the thirty-first Georgia, prevented the intended barbarism. At this part of the railroad a short neck of woods juts out into the plain; so that on our right and left were the open field, while before the line lay this neck of thickly matted woods. Under its shelter the enemy fled, pursued by these four regiments with so much precipitation that both parties entered the ditches beyond almost together. At the railroad and in these ditches a large number of prisoners were captured and sent to the rear, among whom was one colonel and several officers of minor grade. A battery posted to the left, on a hill about two hundred yards distant from the last ditches referred to, tempted the troops still further into the field, firing as they advanced toward it upon men and horses with such effect as to cause a portion of the battery to be withdrawn and the remainder to be abandoned. The prize was virtually in the hands of these gallant men, being abandoned and within seventy-five yards of the place where they stood, but at this moment a heavy line of the enemy advanced on our right flank, (Learned since to have been General Birney's division,) and seeing that all had been accomplished which was in the power of these men to do, I communicated to them the order to retire to the protection of the woods. In the heat of the contest these four regiments may have "gone too far," but brave men in that important struggle feel that they scarcely went far enough. Colonel Atkinson, in command of the brigade, participating fully in the enthusiasm of the charge, was wounded in the arm, above the elbow, soon after entering the field, and fell into the hands of the enemy. Colonel Lamar, wounded by having a part of one of his fingers shot off, retired from the ground: and Major McCarthy succeeded to the command, leading the regiment into the open plain, assisted by Captain Peter Brennam. Colonel W. H. Stiles, commanding his regiment through the entire fight, I have the pleasure to state, did his duty, and did it well. I cannot forbear to mention, in terms of unqualified praise, the heroism of Captain E. P. Lawton, assistant adjutant general of the brigade, from the beginning of the advance until near the close of the fight, when he received a dangerous wound, and was unavoidably left in the open plain, where he fell. Cheering on the men, leading this regiment, or restoring the line of another, encouraging officers, he was everywhere along the

whole line, the bravest among the brave. Just as the four regiments emerged from the neck of woods referred to, his horse was shot from under him, and, in falling, so far disabled him that thousands less ardent or determined would have felt justified in leaving the field; but limping on, he rejoined the line again in their advance towards the battery, but soon received the wound with which he fell. It is gratifying to me to be able to record that officers and men generally behaved with the courage characteristic of the southern soldier, continuing for the brigade a well deserved reputation. The report of casualties will testify how severe the fire was through which these brave men passed in driving the enemy before them. The Staunton artillery, commanded by Lieutenant A. W. Garber, (attached to this brigade,) at half-past four o'clock, was ordered to the extreme right of our lines, and was actively engaged on the plain about two hours, when the batteries of the enemy ceased firing. The officers and men behaved with coolness and gallantry. Lieutenant Garber had his horse shot from under him during the engagement, but suffered no loss of his men. I am extremely gratified to mention that by the activity of Surgeon George F. Cooper, senior surgeon of the brigade, although with limited transportation, our numerous wounded received prompt attention.

I have the honor to be, Major, your obedient servant,

C. A. EVANS,  
*Colonel commanding Brigade.*

Official copy:

S. HALE, *A. A. A. General.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL PENDER.

HEADQUARTERS PENDER'S BRIGADE, Dec. 20, 1862.

Major General A. P. Hill,

*Commanding Light Division:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the fight of December 13th, before Fredericksburg:

I was placed in position Friday morning, early, on the extreme left of the division, in a skirt of wood, where we had no protection, nor could have, from the enemy's artillery. Two batteries were placed in my front; the right one commanded by Captain Davidson, who, I will here state, acted throughout with the greatest judgment, coolness and bravery. Friday was taken up by slight skirmish firing, and now and then a slight artillery duel. Saturday morning we were engaged in the same manner. In the afternoon, however, when the enemy advanced on the right, they opened a most tremendous fire of artillery upon the batteries in my front, playing upon them from the front and right, from at least four batteries. This fire was most destructive to my men. At about this time a heavy line of skirmishers advanced within range of Captain Davidson's battery and kept up a hot fire upon him. One of their balls, at this time, killed my aid, Lieutenant Sheppard, while he was very gallantly and coolly trying to rally some men who had broken on our right and were making to the rear. These skirmishers became so annoying that additional companies had to be thrown out, under the efficient Major Cole, to drive them back, which he did, and held them in check long after his ammunition had given out. Colonel McElroy, with his regiment, the sixteenth North Carolina, had been placed, early in the morning, near the railroad cut and in front of the left battery, which this day consisted of some rifle pieces, under Captain Latimer—as brave a soldier as I ever saw—to support it. He was here much exposed, being far in advance of the general line, with his left totally unprotected, but with the ravine of Deep Run to cover the movement of the enemy on his left. After the heat of the action on the right, the enemy advanced a brigade up Deep Run, throwing one regiment somewhat in advance, which so sheltered itself behind the trees as to get near enough to take an officer and fifteen men of the sixteenth prisoners, who were protecting the left flank of their regiment. This left the regiment to be raked by a fire down the railroad track. The Colonel drew his regiment back to the ditch and held his ground, until General Law sent forward two regiments to its assistance; these three then charged the enemy, driving them from the railroad cut and across the fields, to within a short distance of their batteries. Owing to a great many of Colonel McElroy's men not having cartridge-boxes, they got out of ammunition; but, getting into the ditch and dividing them, they maintained their ground. The officers and men of my brigade behaved throughout as well as I could have desired them.

In conclusion, I beg leave to commend the efficiency of first Lieutenant T. T. Kirkland, ordnance officer and acting assistant adjutant general, and Mr. John Young, volunteer aid-de-camp. These gentlemen were greatly exposed during the two days we were in advance, but were always at their post. In the death of Lieutenant Sheppard I have to lament the loss of a brave and promising young officer.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

W. D. PENDER,  
*Brigadier General.*

*LIST OF CASUALTIES IN PENDER'S BRIGADE.*

REGIMENT.	KILLED.		WOUNDED.		AGGREGATE.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
Staff.....	1*	.....	.....	.....	1
Thirteenth North Carolina.....	.....	7	4	26	37
Sixteenth North Carolina.....	2	4	8	40	54
Twenty-second North Carolina.....	.....	1	2	42	45
Thirty-fourth North Carolina.....	.....	2	2	15	19
Thirty-eighth North Carolina.....	.....	.....	1	13	14
Grand total.....	3	14	17	136	170

\*Lieutenant Sheppard, aid-de-camp, killed.

## REPORT OF COLONEL HAMILTON, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

BIVOUAC ON RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER,  
*Headquarters Second Brigade, A. P. Hill's Light Division,* }  
December 22, 1862. }

Major R. C. MORGAN, *A. A. G.:*

MAJOR: In obedience to orders from division headquarters, I have the honor to forward the enclosed reports of the regimental commanders of this brigade. After the unfortunate fall of Brigadier General Maxcy Gregg, I assumed command of the second brigade. I have but little to add to my report as regimental commander of the first regiment South Carolina volunteers, beyond mentioning that, so soon as I was informed that I was in command of General Gregg's brigade, I mounted a horse standing near and rode down the lines, informing the commanders of regiments that I was in command of the brigade, and cautioning the soldiers of the brigade to remain quiet and steady under the severe fire of shells, which were falling along the line which we occupied, and I am pleased to say that their courage and steadiness were of the highest character. The brigade, except my own regiment, first South Carolina volunteers, and Orr's rifle regiment, was not engaged with the enemy, as they retired under the fire from my own regiment, no doubt accelerated by their finding themselves at the mercy of the second brigade, which had faced about, and, in an advance a few yards beyond, their entire flank would have been exposed to a severe and raking fire. Brigadier General Paxton's brigade came up after I had driven the enemy off, but I am not aware that they were engaged at all with them at or near my position. I understand that General Early's brigade, under command of Colonel Walker, passed the left of the second brigade and marched to the front; but, as I was on the right of the brigade at this time, and in thick woods, I did not see it myself. Shortly after this, by order from General A. P. Hill, I moved the brigade forward as a support to Colcnel Walker's brigade, and found him occupying the line of the railroad. The enemy were drawn out in line of battle some six hundred yards distant from the railroad, but, beyond advancing their skirmishers, made no forward movement. At dark an order came from Lieutenant General Jackson, ordering an advance of the whole line. I accordingly advanced to the railroad, which I still found held by Colonel Walker's brigade, who had received no such order, as Colonel Walker informed me. Shortly after my reaching the railroad, a message was sent to me, through Colonel McGowan, fourteenth South Carolina regiment, from one of Lieutenant General Jackson's staff, countermanding the order for a general advance of the line. I accordingly marched the brigade back to the position which it had held during the day, where we bivouacked for the night.

I desire to mention the good conduct of Sergeant Pratt, company

B, Orr's regiment rifles, who had rallied a squad of his company after his regiment had been broken and driven off by the enemy, and came to me and asked me to assign him a position, which I did, on the right of my own regiment. Nothing of moment occurred after this day's (13th) engagement. The brigade suffered severely, considering that only two regiments were actually engaged with the enemy. Lists of killed and wounded, amounting to three hundred and sixty-three, have been already forwarded to you.

I am, Major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. H. HAMILTON,

*Colonel commanding Second Brigade, Light Division.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ARCHER.

HEADQUARTERS ARCHER'S BRIGADE,  
*A. P. Hill's Light Division,*  
December 20, 1862.

To Major R. C. MORGAN,  
*Assistant Adjutant General, Light Division :*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my brigade in the battle of Fredericksburg:

On arriving from sick leave Saturday morning, I found my brigade posted in the edge of a wood before Bernard's house, overlooking the plain through which the railroad and Bowling Green turnpike pass, the former at a distance from my front of about two hundred and fifty yards, the latter of about three-quarters of a mile, my left resting where the wood extends forward to the front to a point beyond the railroad. General Lane's brigade was on my left, with an interval of about six hundred yards between us, while (as I was informed) General Gregg's brigade was immediately behind the interval, close enough to prevent my being flanked. On my right I found Lieutenant Colonel Walker, with fifteen pieces of light artillery, supported by Colonel Brockenbrough's brigade. As the fog cleared away, the enemy was seen advancing from the Bowling Green road, and a little after nine o'clock, A. M., several batteries were brought forward and placed in position about one thousand yards from us, which were fired on by some of our batteries, far off to the right, and with which they carried on a brisk exchange of shots for about an hour, occasionally throwing shell into the wood where I was posted. About half-past ten o'clock, A. M., they turned all their guns on our position, and, after thirty or forty minutes' severe shelling, their lines of infantry formed and advanced rapidly to the attack. When they had arrived near enough, I perceived them massing in front of, and entering the point of wood which I have before mentioned as projecting on my left, beyond the railroad, and immediately sent my ordnance officer, Lieutenant Lemmon, to warn General Gregg that it was time for him to move forward into the interval between Lane's and my brigade, to prevent my being flanked. Shortly after, fearing that General Gregg might be too late, I drew out the right battalion (fifth Alabama) and ordered it to the left. When the enemy in my front arrived near the railroad, my brigade opened a rapid and destructive fire upon them, which soon checked their career, and forced them to retire and take shelter in the railroad track, from which they kept up a desultory fire upon our line. In the meantime, the column which had entered the point of wood on my left succeeded in passing round my left flank and attacked the nineteenth Georgia and fourteenth Tennessee in rear and flank. These regiments were compelled to retire, leaving about

one hundred and sixty prisoners in the enemy's hands. The greater part of the seventh Tennessee also, seeing the regiments on their left give way and hearing the cry that the enemy was in their rear, left the trenches in disorder. The first Tennessee, together with Lieutenants Timberlake, Foster, Wilmouth and Baird, of the seventh Tennessee, and a portion of the latter regiment, held its ground gallantly, and, after its ammunition was exhausted, charged, under Lieutenant Col. George, (Col. Turney having been severely wounded early in the action,) across the railroad track, with Colonel Hoke's brigade, of Early's division, and returned to its original position when the charge was over.

The fifth Alabama battalion, which I had sent from the right to aid in opposing the enemy on the left, discharged their duty faithfully, first under Major Vandegraff, and, after he was wounded, under Captain Stewart.

After sending Lieutenant Lemmon, I also sent my aid-de-camp, Lieutenant Thomas, to explain the urgency of the case to General Gregg, and to bring down another brigade in support of my front, which, although not then pressed in front, had nearly exhausted its ammunition.

General Gregg's and Lawton's brigades and the fifth Alabama battalion drove back the enemy, who had passed my flank, and Colonel Hoke, in command of Trimble's brigade, came down to the edge of the wood, my original position, which I still maintained with the right of my brigade, but with empty rifles and cartridge-boxes. The whole line then charged over the field beyond the railroad. When it returned to the edge of the wood I drew back my troops about thirty yards, reformed my brigade and remained in support of the front line, (Hoke's brigade, which had relieved me in the trenches.)

I take pleasure in reporting that the attack along my whole front was gallantly and successfully repelled by my brigade. No enemy ever arrived within fifty yards of my front, and even after my left was broken by the attack in rear and flank, the enemy in front had been so sharply repulsed that he did not venture to come again. Officers and men generally acted with gallantry.

Lieutenant Z. C. Gunn, fourteenth Tennessee, fell in the most gallant discharge of his duty.

Lieutenant Colonel Hutchins, of the nineteenth Georgia, mentions particularly the good conduct of Captain Mabry, Lieutenants W. H. Johnson and M. Edwards, Sergeant Shell and Corporal Rogan.

Lieutenants O. H. Thomas and George Lemmon, of my staff, rendered me gallant and efficient service throughout the action.

My loss in the action was forty killed, two hundred and eleven wounded, and one hundred and sixty-six missing, supposed to have been captured.

Among the wounded were Colonel Turney, Lieutenant Colonel George and Major Buchanan, of the first Tennessee; Captain Turney, the senior captain of the first Tennessee; Major Neil, of the nineteenth Georgia; Major Vandegraff, of the fifth Alabama bat-

talion, and Mr. Frank Wotten, volunteer aid on my staff, the latter supposed to be mortally wounded.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

J. L. ARCHER,  
*Brigadier General commanding Brigade.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL LANE.

HEADQUARTERS LANE'S BRIGADE, }  
December 23, 1862. }

Major R. C. MORGAN,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my brigade in the late engagement before Fredericksburg:

At half past six o'clock, on the morning of the 12th, we left our bivouac and took the position assigned us on the railroad, my right being about two hundred and fifty yards to the left of the small piece of woods beyond the track, and my left resting on a dirt road, which crosses the railroad near the point where it makes a bend. Several batteries were to my left and rear, and General Pender some distance further back, my left nearly covering his right. When I had made this disposition of my command I rode to the right of General Archer's brigade, which was posted in the woods some four hundred yards from the railroad, and informed Colonel Turney, who was at that time commanding, that there was an open space between us of about six hundred yards. I also informed General Gregg of this opening; his command, which was to have been my support, being on the military road opposite this opening, and some five or six hundred yards from the railroad. I subsequently met General A. P. Hill, and spoke to him of our relative positions.

Nothing of interest occurred on Friday and Friday night. Saturday morning, I ordered the seventh and eighteenth regiments beyond the railroad to support three batteries, which had been placed on a hill immediately in their front. Lieutenant Colonel Hill at once approached the captain of one of these batteries, told him he would insure its safety against any attempt on the part of the enemy to capture it, and that he must let him know when he wished him to move to the front. As soon as the fog lifted, heavy skirmishing commenced along my whole line, and the enemy were seen advancing. Our skirmishers, with the exception of Captain Turner's company, on the left, fell back. The batteries, just alluded to, then opened, with telling effect, and checked their advance. During this firing Captain Turner withdrew his company, as his men were suffering, and rejoined his regiment. Several pieces of the artillery, after firing a few rounds, hurried from the field, saying they were "choked." On intimation, from one of the captains of the batteries, Lieutenant Colonel Hill promptly moved his regiment to the crest of the hill in front of the enemy and delivered a volley at the sharpshooters, who were in range; the artillery all limbering up and driving to the rear. The seventh and eighteenth both suffered from the enemy's artillery fire, and, at times, from their sharpshooters. About two hours later the enemy advanced in strong force across the open field to the right of my

front. Colonel Barber, his regiment being on the right, informed me, through Adjutant Oates, of the advance, and wished to know what he must do should he be flanked. On being ordered to hold his position as long as possible, he deflected his three right companies, and formed them to the rear at right angles to the track. I at once sent my courier, Mr. Shepperd, to inform General A. P. Hill that the enemy were advancing in force upon the opening, Captain Hawks having been previously sent to apprise him that their skirmishers were in front of the same. Eight regiments were seen to pass to my right, and another to move "by the right flank by file left" between the same body of woods and the fence beyond the track. This last regiment then faced by the rear rank and opened fire upon my right. The three right companies of the thirty-seventh became hotly engaged, and General Gregg's command was soon after encountered on the military road. Although our right was turned by such a large force, our position was deemed too important to be given up without a blow, and nobly did both officers and men await the approach of another large force along our entire front. As this force was concealed from the thirty-third, eighteenth and seventh regiments by the hill, about forty yards beyond the track, they were cautioned to reserve their fire. The twenty-eighth and thirty-seventh, however, had open, level ground in their front, and, when the enemy had gotten within one hundred and fifty yards of our line, they opened a terrific and deadly fire upon them, repulsing their first and second lines, and checking the third. These two regiments were subjected not only to a direct, but to right and left oblique fires, that portion of the enemy's force behind the hill, nearest the twenty-eighth, firing upon them. As soon as the right of my command became engaged with such an overwhelming force, I despatched Captain Hawks to General Gregg for reinforcements, with instructions, if he was unable to send them, to apply to General Thomas, or anybody else whom he might see in command of troops, for assistance. My whole command held their ground until the twenty-eighth and thirty-seventh had fired away not only their own ammunition, but that of their dead and wounded, which, in some cases, was handed to them by their officers. When these two regiments had ceased firing, the enemy, in column, doubled on the centre, bore down in mass from behind the hill upon the left of the twenty-eighth and right of the thirty-third, and the "power of numbers forced them entirely across the railroad." The twenty-eighth and thirty-seventh, being flanked right and left, fell back in an orderly manner, and were resupplied with ammunition. A well directed volley from the thirty-third checked the enemy for a time, and Colonel Avery ordered a charge, but, being unsupported on his right, he countermanded the order and withdrew his regiment into the woods, about seventy-five yards from the railroad. The eighteenth regiment then fell back about one hundred yards, the right companies firing into the foe until he reached the woods in the pursuit. The seventh, being on the left, fell back about fifty yards, in perfect order. During the greater part of the engagement the enemy's artillery played upon the woods in our rear. While awaiting reinforcements, I sent my

aid, Lieutenant Lane, to the left, to tell Lieutenant Colonel Hill, if he could possibly be spared, to come, to the assistance of my right, as it was heavily pressed. The right, however, was forced to fall back before the order could be delivered. General Thomas came to my assistance, but too late to save my line. He encountered the enemy in the edge of the woods, drove them back, and, with the eighteenth and seventh regiments of my brigade on his left, chased them to their first position. The thirty-third, in accordance with orders, held the position in the woods to which it had fallen back, until I could move up the twenty-eighth and thirty-seventh, when all again resumed their positions on the railroad. That night the whole brigade was aligned on the track, and skirmishers thrown forward, preparatory to a general advance. After this order was countermanded, my command rested on their arms until morning, when, having already been on duty upwards of forty-eight hours, there was heavy skirmishing along my whole front—a number of men being killed and wounded. We formed a portion of the second line on Monday, and, as we occupied an exposed position, the men soon constructed a very good temporary breastworks of logs, brush and dirt, behind which they rested until Tuesday morning, when it was ascertained that the enemy had all recrossed the Rappahannock.

I cannot speak in too high terms of the gallantry of Colonels Avery, Barber, Lowe and Purdie, and Lieutenant Colonel Hill. They all commanded their regiments with bravery, and to my entire satisfaction. Colonel Purdie was slightly wounded. Colonel Barber received a painful wound in the neck, which, for a time, paralyzed his right arm, but he reported for duty again on Tuesday.

The other officers, both field and company, generally discharged their duties well.

Colonel Avery alludes in high terms to the efficiency of Lieutenant Colonel Cowan. Colonel Purdie, in his report, makes an unenviable allusion to one of his officers, name not given.

The Yankee wretches dragged Lieutenant J. W. Peters, company C, thirty-seventh regiment, some distance by the legs, after he had been wounded in the head and leg.

The men of the twenty-eighth and thirty-seventh fought like brave men, long and well, while those of the other regiments calmly held their positions under a heavy artillery fire, one of the most trying positions in which soldiers can be placed.

I cannot refrain making special allusion to our conscripts, many of whom were under fire for the first time. They proved themselves worthy accessions to a brigade which has borne itself well in all the battles of the last eight months.

Captain F. T. Hawks, the assistant adjutant general, Lieutenant Oscar Lane, my aid, and private James W. Shepperd, my courier, were of great assistance to me throughout the fight, often carrying orders and messages for me under the hottest fire.

Our ambulance corps was very efficient and removed our wounded rapidly. Lieutenant James A. Bryan, ordnance officer, was untiring in his exertions to keep the command supplied with ammunition.

Our loss in officers was two killed, twenty-five wounded and five prisoners; enlisted men, sixty killed, two hundred and thirty-two wounded, one hundred and eighty-three prisoners and twenty-eight missing—an aggregate of six hundred and twenty-five.

Respectfully,

JAMES H. LANE,  
*Brigadier General.*

REPORT OF COLONEL BROCKENBROUGH, COMMANDING  
BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS FIELD'S BRIGADE, }  
December 21, 1862. }

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the action of this brigade in the late battle near Fredericksburg:

Stationed upon the extreme right of our division, we remained in this position until the concentrated forces of the enemy passed through a gap in, and reached the rear of, our lines. There being no enemy in our immediate front, and reinforcements being called for, I withdrew my command from its first position and hurried as rapidly as possible to the point indicated. We moved up by the left flank, and so urgent and repeated were the calls for reinforcements that my two leading regiments, viz: forty-seventh Virginia, Colonel Mayo, and the twenty-second battalion, Colonel Tayloe, the only regiments actively engaged, advanced in a run, separated themselves from the brigade, passed well to the left and encountered the enemy in rear of our front lines, about midway between Generals Archer and Lane. Firing one volley into their left flank and charging them with a yell, they fled precipitately to the shelter of the railroad cut. Here they rallied and made a short stand, but, being joined by a Georgia brigade, (Lawton's, I believe,) we made a second charge, which drove them from the railroad. Here the men were ordered to halt, but such was their impetuosity that much the larger portion of these two regiments advanced to the position which had been occupied by two of the enemy's batteries, which they found deserted. Being unsupported, they were, of course, compelled to retreat, which was done under the most galling fire of grape, canister and minie balls.

The fact that only two regiments were actively engaged was accidental and unavoidable. The woods through which we passed being dense and filled with troops, the rapid run of the leading regiments soon separated them from the brigade, and, while they passed well around to the left, the remainder of the brigade only marched by direct line to General Archer's left, who was said to have been flanked. Driving the enemy from the woods was a task of short duration, and the troops engaged were completely successful in driving back the enemy before the remaining regiments, a few minutes behind them, could come to their assistance.

During the fight several of the enemy's mounted officers were shot down, and the colors of one regiment were seen to fall four times.

It affords me much pleasure to mention the good conduct of Colonels Mayo and Tayloe and the officers and men under their command.

The valor and daring of the men was unprecedented. Many of them were fighting in sight of their homes and seemed determined to drive back the enemy at all hazards.

Our loss was considerable, being about twenty per cent. of the troops actively engaged.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. BROCKENBROUGH,

*Colonel commanding Brigade.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL THOMAS.

HEADQUARTERS THOMAS' BRIGADE, GEN. A. P. HILL'S DIV., }  
December 20, 1862. }

Major R. C. MORGAN,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: On Friday, December 12, 1862, according to orders from Major General Hill, this brigade left its camp near Mr. John Alsop's house, moved in the direction of Fredericksburg, and was directed to take position in line of battle on the military road, with orders to support General Pender, who occupied the front and left of the division. The remainder of the day and the succeeding night passed without any change in position.

About midday, of December 13th, orders were received from Major General Hill to render assistance and support to any part of the front line requiring it. Soon after which, an officer of General Lane's staff brought information that his brigade was hard pressed by overwhelming numbers. I immediately advanced my brigade down the road, being unable on account of the density of the undergrowth to advance in line, the brigade moved by the flank until near the scene of action, when the regiments were thrown into line of battle and advanced towards the enemy, who, at this time, had advanced into the woods. Their advance was checked there, and, after a stubborn resistance, this brigade charged them, driving them through the field and completely routing them. We pursued for some distance across the railroad, when, seeing no support either on the right or left, and my ammunition being reported to be well nigh exhausted, I concluded to fall back to the railroad. Forming, at this place, the front line, I determined to hold the position; at the same time, sending word to Colonel Pendleton, commanding brigade, that I was deficient in ammunition, and requesting him to be in supporting distance. The brigade bivouacked that night in the edge of the woods, throwing out pickets on the railroad, and were relieved early the next morning by Colonel Warren's brigade and was placed in reserve.

The officers and men of my command behaved with a gallantry highly commendable.

I have the honor to be, Major, your obedient servant,  
EDWARD L. THOMAS,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

## REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL J. R. JONES.

HEADQ'R'S JONES' BRIGADE, Dec. 20, 1862.

To Captain TALIAFERRO,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

CAPTAIN: In obedience to orders from division headquarters, I respectfully submit the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the recent battle at Fredericksburg:

I reached the ground on Friday evening, and was placed in position in the reserved line. On Saturday morning, 13th instant, I was directed to change my position to the left and farther to the front; but still occupying a portion in the reserve. My position subjected me to some annoyance from the shells of the enemy, one of which severely wounded the adjutant of the forty-second Virginia regiment. About the middle of the day the musketry opened, when I was still further advanced to within musketry range of the enemy. The front line not requiring support, I remained in this position the remainder of the day. In obedience to orders, I advanced at dawn next morning to the front, relieving Brigadier General Lanc. My command moved to this position under a heavy musketry fire from the enemy's sharpshooters, in which I had one man killed and several wounded. The completeness of the victory of Saturday not being known, officers and men expected soon to be engaged with the enemy in force, and it affords me pleasure to report that all were anxious for the encounter, and manifested a feeling of disappointment as the day passed on and no signs of an advance were given by the enemy. A brisk skirmish was kept up during the day, in which I sustained a loss of thirty-seven officers and men killed and wounded. Among the former was Captain Ames, company C, twenty-first Virginia regiment, and Lieutenant Swoops, company E, twenty-first Virginia regiment, both in the faithful discharge of their duty. The fighting was necessary to keep the sharpshooters from occupying the crest which commanded our line.

Where all behaved coolly, gallantly and equally well, I can speak of none in particular. I can only say that the gallant little brigade which has fought so gallantly and lost so heavily in the great battles of the past summer and fall, was ready to do its duty and bear its part in making the shortest and most direct route to Richmond a hard road to travel.

Very respectfully,

J. R. JONES,  
*Brigadier General commanding.*

REPORT OF COLONEL PENDLETON, COMMANDING  
BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS STARKE'S BRIGADE,  
Camp near Fredericksburg, Dec. 19, 1862. }

Captain W. T. TALIAFERRO,

*A. A. General Jackson's Division:*

CAPTAIN: In obedience to the circular order of the Brigadier General commanding, of this date, requiring reports from commanders of brigades of the participation of their respective commands in the late operations around Fredericksburg, I beg leave to submit the following report of the part taken therein by the brigade under my command:

Having previously cooked three days' rations, on the morning of the 12th instant, at early dawn, we marched from our camp, near Guineas depot, for the scene of the late engagement. The brigade under my command, soon after its arrival on the ground, about two, P. M., took its position in line of battle on the extreme left of the right wing, in rear of and supporting Thomas' brigade in General A. P. Hill's division. In this position we remained until Saturday morning, the 13th, when we were ordered to take a different position, to our left and rear. Here we remained inactive, awaiting the progress of events, until half past one, P. M., when a rapid and continued fire of musketry in our front indicated that the enemy had advanced to attack our front line, and we moved forward in close supporting distance of General Thomas, to whose relief I was ordered to go in case he desired my assistance. It was not until about four, P. M., that I received a message from General Thomas informing me that he had driven the enemy back, but had only three rounds of ammunition, and wished me to move up close enough to charge the enemy in conjunction with him so soon as he should be again engaged. In accordance with this request, I again moved my command forward to within eighty paces of the line held by General Thomas, with unflinching determination, and, having ordered my men to lie down to avoid the desultory fire of the enemy's sharpshooters, awaited the signal for the onset. But the enemy having failed to renew the attack, as was anticipated, I was not called on. Just when it began to grow dark, I received the order of Lieutenant General Jackson for a general advance between sunset and dark, and commenced the execution of it by moving forward; but finding that the troops in front of me were not in motion, I ordered a halt. Shortly afterwards the order was countermanded, and I bivouacked for the night.

At half past three o'clock, on the morning of the 14th, I was ordered to relieve General Pender on our advance line, and immediately did so.

The battery of Captain Carrington, stationed in front of my left, reported to me for orders, and was directed not to open unless the enemy threatened us with an attack, as he would thereby attract upon

us the crossfire of three of the enemy's batteries, from which the ground afforded us no protection whatever. Such, I was informed by General Pender, had been the case the day previous. From misapprehension or some other cause unknown to me, so soon as the forces of the enemy were seen to be in motion at the distance of apparently a mile, Captain Carrington opened upon his column with rifle pieces, and the consequence which I had foreseen immediately ensued, resulting in the loss of ten or twelve wounded, with little advantage to our side.

About ten, A. M., I was ordered to throw my command forward in the field about three hundred yards and occupy the line of the railroad, beyond which I had already posted my line of skirmishers before daylight. Moving in a circuitous route by the right flank, so as to screen the movement as much as possible from the observation and fire of the enemy's sharpshooters, I at once proceeded to occupy the new position assigned to me, though I found it impossible of accomplishment without the loss of several men wounded, one or more fatally. In moving four of the regiments of my brigade from the railroad, under an order subsequently received to throw them back in a line nearly at right angles with the railroad, I again sustained a slight loss from the same cause. The skirmishers thrown out along my front kept up a brisk and well directed fire during the whole day, (twice exhausting their ammunition,) and, as was ascertained by actual observation during the presence of the flag of truce in the afternoon, with fatal effect on the enemy. The enemy, contrary to all expectation, having failed to advance or renew his attack during the day, we quietly bivouacked in our position for the night, and being relieved at four, A. M., on the 15th, by the division of Major General D. H. Hill, retired to the line of the reservoir, which we occupied until it was ascertained that the enemy had entirely abandoned the field and recrossed the Rappahannock.

Although my command was not at any time closely engaged, it was three times subjected to a sharp fire, and was, throughout the days of the 13th and 14th, in constant expectation of being brought into action. Under these circumstances every man remained firm at his post, not a straggler was to be seen leaving the ranks, and all evinced a commendable eagerness to engage the enemy, which needed only opportunity to ripen into the gallantry heretofore so conspicuous in the troops from Louisiana. Lieutenant Colonel Nolan, commanding the first Louisiana regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Goodwin, commanding the fifteenth; Major Grogan, commanding the second; Major Leggett, commanding the tenth, and Captain Verlander, commanding the fourteenth, are deserving of my especial commendation for the coolness and skill with which they commanded their respective regiments, and the promptness and energy with which they executed every order. I should entirely fail in my duty if I did not advert also to the valuable assistance rendered to me by First Lieutenant Thomas L. Mills, of the tenth Louisiana, who tendered me his services as aid-de-camp for the occasion. His promptness and untiring activity in conveying my orders, although frequently exposed, are deserving of the highest praise, and I beg leave to mention him as eminently deserving of

promotion. The casualties of my brigade have been heretofore reported at two killed and thirty-five wounded.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

EDMOND PENDLETON,

*Colonel Fifteenth Louisiana Regiment, commanding Brigade.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL WALTON.

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION WASHINGTON ARTILLERY,  
Near Fredericksburg, December 20, 1862.

To Major G. M. SORREL,  
*A. A. General First Corps, A. N. V.:*

MAJOR: In conformity to circular order of 18th instant, I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the battalion Washington artillery, of New Orleans, under my command, in the battles of the 12th and 13th instants, near Fredericksburg, Virginia. The signal guns, fired at four o'clock, A. M., on the morning of the 11th instant, aroused my camp, and gave notice that the enemy was in motion. Immediately the batteries of the first, third and fourth companies (consisting of two three-inch rifles and one ten-pounder Parrott gun, under Captain Squiers, Lieutenants Galbraith and Brown, first company; two twelve-pounder light Napoleon guns, under Captain Miller and Lieutenant McElroy, third company; and two twelve-pounder howitzers and two twelve-pounder light Napoleon guns, under Captain Eshleman, Lieutenants Norcom, Battles and Apps, fourth company) were placed in position in the redoubts on the hill back of the town, known as "Marye's Hill," extending from the telegraph road to the plank road. Notwithstanding the dense fog, which enveloped the country around and completely hid from view the town and river banks, the enemy, at about seven o'clock, A. M., opened upon the town a tremendous fire from his numerous batteries, which lined the Stafford shore, to cover his crossing. This cannonading he continued during the day, with but little intermission, and without any response from my batteries. The command bivouacked for the night in the works, beside their guns. The next morning, 12th instant, the fog was again exceedingly heavy. At two o'clock, P. M., it had raised sufficiently for us to discern the hills opposite the city, densely covered with the enemy's infantry and artillery. At twenty minutes to four o'clock, P. M., a heavy column was observed near the gas works, below the town, upon which my batteries immediately opened a well directed and destructive fire, causing the enemy to break and run for cover. During this firing, the enemy's heavy batteries (across the river) opened upon us with shell and shot, disregarding which, my men steadily worked their guns without replying. After about ten minutes, having dispersed the column, my batteries ceased firing and continued to receive in silence the continued fire of the enemy. Another night, passed by the officers and men beside their guns, brings us to the memorable 13th December. At half past twelve o'clock, P. M., the enemy was observed, in force, moving down upon our position through the streets of the town. Everything being in readiness, fire was immediately opened from all my batteries, at once halting and breaking his first advance. Again they emerged in greater force, and, apparently, with much steadiness.

Gaining the crest of an elevated piece of ground in our front, he opened upon our position a galling fire of musketry, and of artillery from the hills beyond. The brigade of General Cobb, in front of my batteries, then opened fire, and the battle became general all along our line. Again and again did their heavy masses come forth from the town, only to be mowed down and scattered in confusion, as each time they formed and advanced. Three times their colors were leveled by the unerring aim of the gunners. At two o'clock, P. M., a portion of General Ransom's division (supporting column) moved steadily across the plateau in my rear; halting but an instant on the crest of the hill, they delivered a volley, then plunged with a cheer into the road below and in front of us, already occupied by Cobb's troops. The sharpshooters of the enemy, under cover of a crest in front and the slope of the hill, kept up a galling fire upon our works, causing many of my gallant men to fall, killed and wounded, at their posts; among whom was Lieutenant H. A. Battles, fourth company, severely wounded in the arm by a minie ball. Five several times did heavy masses of the enemy's infantry, supported by light batteries which had been placed in position on the field, advance from the cover of the town and the scattered houses, only to meet the fate of those who preceded them. They fell by thousands under the judicious, steady and unerring fire of my guns, encouraged and aided by the gallant conduct of the brave troops in the road in front of us. At five o'clock, P. M., after having been engaged four hours and a half, against overwhelming odds of the enemy, I was compelled to relinquish the post of honor to Woolfolk's and Moody's batteries, Alexander's battalion, having one gun disabled, and having exhausted all the canister, shell and case shot, and nearly every round of solid shot in the chests; more could not be supplied, in position, in time, the train being several miles distant. On the 14th my guns were held in reserve. On the 15th I took position in the works on the extreme left of our line, the position before occupied by Lane's battery, which I occupied until the 18th instant. On the 18th all my batteries were again concentrated in camp. The second company, Captain Richardson, was, during the engagements, attached to Pickett's division, in reserve, and was not engaged.

It is my duty, as it is my pleasure, to say in behalf of my officers, cannoneers and drivers, that upon no field during this war have men behaved more gallantly. To Captains Eshleman, Miller and Squiers, and the brave officers and men under them, is the service indebted for the gallant defence of Marye's Hill against the stubborn and overwhelming assaults of an army of over fifty thousand men. To Lieutenant William M. Owen, my adjutant and only aid, I am, as usual, indebted for zealots and fearless conduct on the field, in the performance of all his duties. Before closing this report, I may be permitted, without being invidious, to direct the attention of the General commanding to the gallant conduct of Captain Eshleman, in directing, and Lieutenant Norcom, fourth company, in executing the order, in taking one of the Napoleon guns from the work, where it was out of range, and placing it between two of the redoubts, on the open field,

there continuing it in action, entirely exposed to the enemy's infantry and sharpshooters, during the greater part of the engagement. My loss in this engagement is three killed and twenty-four wounded.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

J. B. WALTON,

*Colonel of Artillery, commanding.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL CRUTCHFIELD.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY COMMAND, SECOND ARMY CORPS, }  
January 3, 1863. }

Lieutenant General T. J. JACKSON,  
*Commanding Second Army Corps, A. N. V.:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the artillery of this corps in the engagement near Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862:

The heights on the right of our line were held by fourteen guns of the batteries of Major General A. P. Hill's division, under Lieutenant Colonel R. L. Walker, and consisting of the batteries of Captains Pegram and McIntosh, (four guns each,) and sections of the batteries of Captains Latham, Johnson and Crenshaw, commanded respectively by Lieutenants Potts, Clatter and James Ellett. This position was a commanding one, and afforded admirable advantage against a direct assault from infantry; but, what was more important, so-controlled the ground in front as to force the enemy to open a heavy cannonade upon it, in the hope of silencing these batteries, before they could move any considerable mass of their infantry down the plain, as would be necessary should they endeavor to turn our right. On the other hand, it was liable to the disadvantages always attaching to a fixed position, that it must receive a concentrated fire from many points, added to which the formation of the ground at the top of the hill was such as not to afford much protection to men and hardly any to the horses. It was of course a position of great importance, and it being specially necessary that its batteries should be able to open an effective fire upon the enemy's infantry in the plain below, should they endeavor to move down the river to threaten or turn our right, I directed Lieutenant Colonel Walker to keep his guns concealed as well as he could, and not to allow himself to be drawn into an artillery duel, but, disregarding the fire of the enemy's batteries, to reserve his own for their infantry when it should come within effective range. On the left of our line were posted twenty-one guns, as follows: Just at Bernard's cabins and to their left, nine guns, consisting of six rifles, two Napoleons and one six-pounder, of the batteries of Captains Davidson, Raine, Caskie and Braxton, all under the immediate direction of Captain Davidson. Some two hundred yards in front of these, to their right and beyond the railroad, were placed twelve guns, consisting of six rifles, three Napoleons and three six-pounders, from the batteries of Captains Carpenter, Wooding and Braxton, all under the immediate command of Captain J. B. Brockenbrough. Captain Carpenter's battery was commanded by Lieutenant McKendree. From the first it was evident that the enemy's attack might be expected upon our centre, where the heights on our right descended to a level with the plain, and a point of woods running out into the field offered them early and good shelter, or that they would endeavor to turn our

right. A considerable artillery force was held ready to meet this latter contingency by moving out and taking position in the fields to our right, so as to cross its fire with the batteries of Lieutenant Colonel Walker. The centre of the line was our weakest point, since Lieutenant Colonel Walker's guns could not oblique their fire to the left sufficiently to hope to prevent the enemy's seizing the point of woods referred to, at the distance at which it was. The batteries near Bernard's cabins more directly controlled this point, but only by a quite oblique fire to the right. So that there was some eight hundred or a thousand yards of our front, near the centre, undefended by a direct artillery fire to the front. I examined the ground carefully in the woods behind this point, in hopes of being able to establish batteries of howitzers, which, by a canister fire, might soon check the enemy's infantry in their advance through the woods. But I found the ground unfavorable, being intersected by a deep ravine, and the undergrowth so thick as to require more time to clear it away than we had before the action began. The instructions given to Captains Brockenbrough and Davidson were to reserve their fire for the enemy's infantry at close range, and not to engage his batteries unless he advanced them to the support of his infantry, and then they were to concentrate their fire on the advancing battery, and not to fall back from their position so long as our infantry supported them. The enemy opened the attack by the fire of some twenty-five or thirty guns directed upon Lieutenant Colonel Walker's position, and from about sixteen guns (afterwards increased to twenty-four) upon our batteries at and near Bernard's cabins. The officers in charge of these batteries obeyed their orders, and, the enemy's fire not being replied to, he advanced his skirmishers in very heavy line upon the points occupied by the commands of Captains Brockenbrough and Davidson. These were soon driven off by canister, and the exact positions of our batteries being thus disclosed to the enemy, he directed a heavy artillery fire upon them, and advanced one of his batteries near a chimney in the centre of the plain. This fire was replied to by our batteries, and soon two of the enemy's batteries were withdrawn, and their places supplied by others of longer range. About this time two of our rifle guns, belonging to Captains Wooding's and Caskie's batteries, were disabled, by their axles breaking from the recoil of the gun, and had to be withdrawn. All this time the enemy's sharpshooters annoyed us greatly, working around to the right of Captain Brockenbrough's position whenever driven from his front, and pertinaciously readvancing whenever they could, under the shelter of their artillery fire. Though they were once or twice repelled by canister, when advancing imprudently, they were so well protected by the accidents of the ground, and so feebly opposed by our own sharpshooters, that they could not be entirely dislodged, and caused heavy loss in our batteries, both among men and horses. Captain Brockenbrough was wounded while gallantly discharging his duty, and Captain Wooding badly shot while acting as gunner to one of his pieces. Being badly supported by the infantry in their rear, after severe losses in officers, men and horses, the batteries of Captain

Breckenbrough's command were withdrawn, as they would have been lost so soon as the enemy seized the point of woods to their right and rear, as they did. The ammunition in Captain Raine's battery (commanded by Lieutenant Statham) was so defective (from the bad fuzes, I think) that, none of its shell bursting, it was withdrawn, and its place supplied by the Chesapeake artillery, of three guns, Lieutenant Plater commanding, while a section of Captain Latimer's battery, under his own charge, was sent still further to the front and left. These latter pieces were excellently managed, and, though losing heavily from the enemy's sharpshooters, drove back their lines with canister, and caused them great loss by an uncommonly accurate and rapid shell fire, as they were driven back by General Law's brigade, in their attempted advance. Lieutenant McKendree, of Carpenter's battery, exhibited noticeable resolution and composure in managing his battery. On the right the enemy, after furiously cannonading Lieutenant Colonel Walker's position till they imagined his batteries crippled, advanced their infantry. One body moved towards the point of woods in our centre, and the other with its front parallel to the road from Hamilton's Crossing to the river road. When distant about eight hundred yards, Lieutenant Colonel Walker's batteries opened upon them with great effect, and, at the same time, fifteen guns, composed of sections from the batteries of Captain Poague, (Lieutenant A. Graham, commanding,) Captain Watson, Captain Smith, Captain Garber, one gun of Captain Dance's battery, and the Louisiana Guard battery, three guns, were thrown into position in the plain to our right, so as to cross their fire with that of the guns of Lieutenant Colonel Walker, being specially designed to check the advance of the enemy towards the road from Hamilton's Crossing to the river road. These pieces were under the immediate command of Major Pelham, and were admirably managed and bravely fought, and perfectly accomplished their object. All these batteries did not go in at once, but were added as the weight of the enemy's fire seemed to require it. Towards the close of the day, as the enemy's infantry—driven from the woods by our own—fell back in confusion across the plain under the severe and accurate fire of the guns of Lieutenant Colonel Walker and Major Pelham, some of the batteries of Lieutenant Colonel Walker's command, being short of ammunition, and the men exhausted from working with diminished numbers, were relieved by a section of Lusk's battery, Lieut. Dowell commanding, and a portion of the corps reserve, under Colonel J. Thompson Brown. I shall have to refer you to this officer's report as to what batteries they were, as I knew but one of them—Captain Poague's. They went in under a heavy fire, and, though suffering much, were bravely fought. Some guns of Major General D. H. Hill's division artillery were put in at this time on our right, by his chief of artillery, Major Thomas H. Carter. As these batteries were unknown to me through their officers, I shall have to refer you to that officer's report as to which they were. They moved up with the rest, under heavy fire, and were well served.

It would perhaps be invidious to attempt to discriminate among officers and men, where there were so many fine examples of courage

and devotion; and I fear I may have already done injustice in mentioning some to the exclusion of others, but I trust the reports of other officers will set it all right. I beg, however, to call your special attention to the valuable and gallant services of Lieutenant Colonel Walker and Major Pelham. The position in which Colonel Walker was placed was peculiarly trying, from his being required to endure, for a long time, a very heavy fire without replying to it. Colonel J. Thompson Brown, commanding the corps reserve, also displayed noticeable coolness and judgment in taking his guns in to relieve Lieutenant Colonel Walker under a severe fire.

We lost no pieces; nor did we capture any. Lieutenant Plater had a gun disabled and a limber exploded. Lieutenant Colonel Walker had a gun disabled and a caisson and limber exploded, and Colonel Brown a gun disabled, as also did the Louisiana Guard battery. No carriages or parts of carriages were lost by us. The disabled guns were of course brought off. The loss in horses, and the nature of the ground, together with the position of the enemy's batteries and their numbers, effectively prevented any advance of our batteries as their infantry fell back, and before fresh batteries could get in their line was reformed near the river road, and it was nearly night.

I cannot close this report without calling your attention to the great defect in the ammunition we used, by which few of our shells burst. My own observation entirely confirmed the numerous complaints made to me from the batteries. Much, if not most, of this difficulty is, I am satisfied, justly attributable to the fuzes.

I have the honor to remain,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. CRUTCHFIELD,  
*Colonel and Chief of Artillery Second Corps.*

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL ALEXANDER.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY RESERVE BATTALION, }  
December 20, 1862. }

To Major G. M. SORRELL,  
*Adjutant General First Corps:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the artillery battalion under my command during the recent hostilities:

At dawn, on the 11th instant, on the firing of the signal guns, I moved from camp and posted Captain Rhett's heavy battery in pits which he had prepared on the hill south of the plank road, overlooking the entire country in front and the opposite bank of the river, at a distance of one mile and a-half. Captain Parker's two rifles were placed in pits which he had built near Stansbury's house, commanding the entire flats in front and the opposite bank of the river. His howitzers were concealed behind Stansbury's house, in most admirable positions for opposing any advance of the enemy on the north of the town. The batteries maintained these positions during the whole occupation of the city by the enemy. The batteries of Captains Jordan, Moody and Woolfolk were held concealed in rear of the plateau, back of Stansbury's house, ready to move out upon it, at the appearance of the enemy's infantry, or to any other point of our line needing reinforcements. The cannoneers of Captain Jordan's and Woolfolk's batteries were meanwhile employed, concealed by the mist, in making small pits on the most favorable points of the plateau, and eventually finished eight, in addition to those already there, which would have cost the enemy severely, had he attempted any advance, north of the town. This disposition of my batteries remained unchanged during the 11th and 12th. On the 12th, our infantry having evacuated the town, Captain Rhett's and Captain Parker's batteries opened their rifles occasionally at the position of the principal pontoon bridges of the enemy, Captain Rhett also enfilading two of the principal streets. These fires invariably elicited prompt and heavy responses from the enemy, from which, however, our pits saved us nearly all damage. On the morning of the 13th, this firing was continued, aided by three twelve-pounder guns of Captain Moody's battery, in a new position north of the plank road, opposite Captain Rhett, whence the street leading to the pontoon bridge could be enfiladed. This latter fire at once attracted a reply from every battery of the enemy's in reach, and caused us slight loss. Captain Moody, however, still held the position, sheltering his men when not firing. The enemy shelled this position not only all day, but every day of their occupation of the city afterwards, whence I infer that our fire must have caused them much annoyance. I afterwards made pits in this position for guns, with Captains Moody's and Rhett's cannoneers, but they were only completed on the morning of the enemy's evacuation. At

twenty minutes to four, P. M., of the 13th, I received an order to relieve the Washington artillery on Marye's Hill, their ammunition being nearly exhausted. I at once hastened there, with Captain Woolfolk's battery, Captain Moody's twelve-pounder guns, and two guns of Captain Jordan's battery, and occupied the pits under a heavy fire, which caused three-fourths of my entire loss, while galloping up. The enemy were already within three hundred yards, and seeing the Washington artillery leave, after so protracted and gallant a defence, cheered and pressed on heavily, aided by three batteries, which opened from the edge of the town, and their line of heavy guns on the opposite bank. Disregarding the latter, we poured a rapid and murderous fire on the former and their advancing infantry, under which, and the accurate aim of our veteran infantry beneath us, they were soon driven to shelter behind the houses of the town. About dark the remaining section of Captain Jordan's battery was brought up, one gun replacing a damaged gun of Captain Maurin's in a pit left of the plank road, and the other remaining near, under the control of General Ransom, for any emergency. About seven, P. M., the enemy, said to have been Sykes' division of regulars, again advanced, under cover of darkness, until opened on by our infantry below. My guns opened with canister and case shot at the flashes of their muskets, and this, their last repulse, was said to have been the bloodiest. At dawn on the 14th my only remaining guns in reserve, Moody's two twenty-four-pounder howitzers and one rifle of Captain Jordan's, relieved the remainder of Captain Maurin's battery in the pits left of the plank road; and two twelve-pounder guns of Moody's and two six-pounder guns of Captain Woolfolk's were relieved by brigade batteries, being out of ammunition. On the 14th we fired but few shot, and only at bodies of the enemy's infantry, being compelled to economise ammunition. On the night of the 14th Captain Parker discovered a position enfilading the canal valley, in front of the town, and two pits were constructed at it, which I occupied before day with Moody's twelve-pounder guns. When the fog lifted, the reserves of the enemy's pickets could be seen lying flat on their faces in the valley; in the language of General Burnside, "holding the first ridge." A few well directed shots by Captain Moody soon, however, broke this hold, and all who could not find fresh shelter fled in confusion to the city, under the fire of our sharpshooters and several guns immediately in their rear. This, with a single shot in the brick tannery, broke up entirely the annoying fire of sharpshooters, under which we suffered considerably the day before; and for the rest of the day we worked openly in our pits, and fired at all bodies of infantry appearing in town, unannoyed. That night the town was evacuated. My especial thanks are due to Major J. R. C. Lewis, for his cool and efficient co-operation in the execution of all orders. The left of our line of batteries was under his special supervision for the last two days. I desire also to express here my high appreciation of the gallantry and efficiency of Captains Jordan, Rhett, Moody, Woolfolk and Parker, before attested on many a hard fought field and fully corroborated on this. Captain Eubank, with the remaining battery of my bat-

talion, is absent on detached service. Dr. Gray, surgeon, Captain Franklin, quartermaster, and Lieutenant Vaughan, commissary, managed their respective departments to my entire satisfaction. My adjutant, Lieutenant T. Henderson Smith, carried and executed my orders, under all circumstances, with coolness and judgment. My especial thanks are also due to C. S. Cadet Joseph C. Haskell, of South Carolina, who volunteered me his services, and rendered me indispensable assistance in the supervision of so extensive a command. I beg leave to recommend him to the War Department for promotion. Lieutenants Gillen, Wilson, Burroughs, Terrill and Woolfolk are mentioned in high terms by their captains, as are also Sergeant Cisco, of Moody's, and Private England, of Woolfolk's battery. The latter, unfortunately, was killed. I was personally impressed with the bearing of Lieutenant J. Donnell Smith, of Jordan's battery, commanding a section in the attack on the evening of the 13th. Corporal Lockwood, of his company, a most gallant soldier, whom I also noticed particularly, was wounded, I fear mortally, in the night attack. Our entire loss was one killed, ten wounded, and fifteen horses. One thousand and eighty rounds of ammunition were expended.

I am, Major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. P. ALEXANDER,  
*Lieutenant Colonel commanding Battalion.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL HUMPHRIES.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIRST MISSISSIPPI REGIMENT,  
December 17, 1862.

To WILLIAM BARKSDALE,

*Brigadier General commanding Third Brigade:*

GENERAL: As soon as the signal guns, on the morning of the 11th instant, announced the advance of the enemy, I moved the twenty-first regiment from camp, and arrived at the market-house in Fredericksburg at day-dawn, when, in obedience to your orders, I detached the right wing, under Major Moody, to go to the support of Captain Govan, of the seventeenth regiment, who was guarding the wharf on the Rappahannock, and then engaged with the enemy. I saw no more of that portion of the regiment during the day, and respectfully refer you to Major Moody's report of his operations. The left wing I held in reserve at the market-house, with instructions to support Lieut. Col. Fizer, of the seventeenth regiment, at the upper pon-toon, constructed by the enemy, or Captain Govan, if needed.

About one o'clock, I was ordered to go to the relief of Colonel Fizer, but, owing to a mistake of my guide as to the position of Colonel Fizer I was conducted several hundred yards above to a very exposed position, from which the enemy forced me to retire, by a heavy fire from their artillery. I returned to the market-house, and received orders to advance to the river and resist any advance of the enemy, who had then succeeded in forcing a passage of the river, and were engaged with Lieutenant Colonel Fizer and Colonel Carter, of the nineteenth regiment. I detached Captain Renfoe, with his company, to the foot of William street, and Captain Green, with his company, to the foot of the street leading from the Episcopal church, and placed Captains Stamps, Sims and Gibson, with their companies, on Main street. By this time it was dark. Captain Green discovered the enemy advancing slowly down the river bank and immediately opened fire upon him, and stubbornly resisted until, stricken down by a minie ball, his company fell back, bearing his body with them. The enemy pursuing, charged up the street. Captains Stamps, Sims and Gibson opened a galling fire upon him and drove him off the streets, up towards the pontoon bridge, and held him in check until about seven o'clock, when I was ordered to withdraw my troops from the city, and form a line of battle at the foot of the hill, on the telegraph road, where I remained until I was relieved by the gallant and lamented General Cobb, when I moved back to camp.

During the whole day we were exposed to a heavy fire from the enemy's batteries, posted on the opposite heights, sheltering ourselves as we could behind houses, fences, etc.

The officers and men obeyed every order with promptness and alacrity, and maintained every position with a promptness and constancy worthy of all praise.

The twenty-first regiment lost, during the day, eight killed, twenty-five wounded and thirteen missing.

Very respectfully, your obedlent servant,

BENJAMIN G. HUMPHRIES,

*Colonel commanding 21st Regiment Mississippi Volunteers.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL CABELL.

CAMP NEAR FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA, }  
December 25, 1862. }

Major JAMES M. GOGGIN, A. A. G.:

MAJOR: In conformity with instructions, I have the honor to submit the following report of the conduct and services of the artillery, placed under my command, during the recent engagement:

The division of Major General McLaws arriving here at the head of the column on Thursday, the 20th, by a rapid movement, to intercept the threatened advance of the enemy at Fredericksburg, it devolved upon me, under the direction of Major General McLaws, to place the artillery in position and prepare for their attack. It had been represented that the hills of the Stafford side of the Rappahannock completely commanded the heights on this side. This was apparently the case on the first view of the position, the upper range of hills being then covered with forest. Anticipating that the enemy, who were in large force on the opposite side of the river, would immediately attempt to force the passage of the river, preparations were at once made for resistance. However, the enemy not attempting a passage then, in a very short time the whole scheme of defence was arranged. About a mile above Fredericksburg, at Dr. John R. Taylor's residence, the land rises abruptly from the river to great elevation to the upper heights. These upper heights, however, rapidly recede from the river bank and then take a course nearly parallel with, but at considerable distance from the river. These hills, shortly below the right of the position of this division, rapidly diminish until near Hamilton's Crossing, where they have very inconsiderable elevation. The hills on the other side are much nearer the river. This gave the enemy great advantage in an attempt to cross the river, and in shelling his troops after they passed over. On our right, and shortly below Fredericksburg, their whole army could, and a large portion of it did, deploy on this side of the river in almost perfect security from our artillery. At the same time, being under the cover of their artillery on the Stafford side of the river, they were nearly as secure from an attack by our infantry. A knowledge of this fact probably induced General Burnside to cross the river, and his boast that, after the fight of Saturday, he remained two days in the plain, waiting and inviting an attack from us, is simply ridiculous. But near Dr. Taylor's house, where the upper heights commence to recede from the river, a lower range of hills commences, which, though also receding from, keeps much nearer the river. This lower range of hills terminates abruptly with Marye's Hill, immediately in rear of the town of Fredericksburg—the hill then having almost the appearance of a promontory, the low grounds extending about eight hundred yards back to the base of the upper heights. This lower range of hills is much lower than the hills on the Stafford side of the river,

and is commanded by the enemy's artillery. The position of our artillery and infantry, made by Major General McLaws, was certainly most happy to countervail the disadvantages of our position. While the whole line was under my direction, I had recommended that short-range guns should be placed on the declivity on each side of Marye's house, between the house and the stone wall, where our infantry were drawn up during the battle. I had recommended this, in addition to the guns on the crest of the hill, in order to sweep the plain in front. The impossibility of giving guns on the crest of an abrupt hill sufficient depression gives great advantages to a column of infantry, who, by making a rapid charge, soon find themselves completely protected from the artillery on the hills. I had also recommended that guns should be placed on the northern side of the plank road, on the hills that sweep towards the upper part of Fredericksburg, as if for its protection. These positions would have given a complete enfilading fire upon the enemy advancing upon Marye's Hill, and also upon their forces massed in front of, but protected by the conformation of the ground from the fire or even sight of the gunners on the crest of the hill. These dispositions, for some reasons, were not made. Had they been made, the repulse would have been even more signal and the victory even more complete than we obtained. It is but an act of simple justice to Major General McLaws to say that the disposition of the artillery, in other respects, was such as he had chosen. During the whole of Thursday, the 11th of December, not a gun was fired by our batteries, and our gunners stood quiet spectators of the enemy's attempt to cross the river. The enemy's cannon was firing almost incessantly, and their shell frequently fell near our batteries. The next day, Friday, upon the uplifting of the fog, disclosed to our view the larger portion of the whole force of the enemy upon this side of the river. On the right of my position a battery of light artillery was discovered, in position. A few well directed shots from our batteries caused this battery quickly to retire to a position still further to the right. The first position of this battery, if retained, would have been very annoying to our troops, who were drawn up under the cover of the woods and in convenient range of its guns. This battery then took position on the other side of Deep creek, alongside of several other batteries, but its effectiveness was nearly destroyed by its compelled removal of position.

Every battery officer received the instruction that he was to fire with great deliberation, and to fire only upon large bodies of troops. Of course, some discretion was allowed to every officer, and I am happy to be able to state that that discretion was generally well exercised. And one of the best proofs of the effectiveness of our fire was afforded by their turning their guns upon us.

In front of my position the low grounds extended in an apparent plain from the base of the hill to the river bank. Through these low grounds the Richmond and Fredericksburg railroad and the river road pass. Though apparently a plain, there are many inequalities of the ground, which, with these roads, enabled the enemy to mask

his approach. All but five of our batteries were so placed as to command not only the approach of the enemy on our right, but also the telegraph road and the abandoned railroad, called the Fredericksburg and Gordonsville railroad. The guns back of Howison's house, besides this, commanded the left of the telegraph road, and enabled us to give an oblique and almost enfilading fire upon the enemy advancing from the various streets in Fredericksburg, and who were drawn up under the protection of the inequalities of the ground in front of Marye's Hill. The main battle on the left was fought to obtain this hill. Between this hill and the town of Fredericksburg, it is said, the Rappahannock formerly flowed. The conformation of the ground, therefore, enabled the enemy to mask their troops so as to be out of view of our infantry, in position at the foot of Marye's Hill, and even from our artillery on the hill itself. My position enabled me to observe the enemy's left flank, upon which our guns opened a most destructive fire. It was easy to perceive, from previous knowledge of the ground and the location of their left flank, where their troops were massed, and our batteries, having an almost enfilading fire, opened upon them. Through the valley in front of Marye's Hill a sluice for the waste waters of the canal passes. There is no passage for the enemy's troops between the road immediately in front of Marye's house and the road leading directly from the telegraph road to the depot of the Richmond and Fredericksburg railroad. The approach by this latter road was completely commanded by our guns. Several times their advance was repulsed by the well-directed fire of our batteries.

Over a whole brigade was displaced and scattered in confusion to the rear. Once they made for the railroad cut, and several shell from our batteries exploded amongst them before they could escape from it. Once they charged by attempting to cross the cut, running down one side and up the other; and again they attempted to escape in the same manner. But on each occasion a murderous fire from our batteries caused them to retire precipitately.

I am confident that not only upon the approach and the successive repulses of the enemy was the fire of our batteries most efficacious, but that also it did great execution upon the masses of the enemy in front of Marye's Hill.

It may be proper, also, to state another fact in connection with the topography of the battle-field. The right of Marye's Hill terminates almost precipitously. The telegraph road passes on the right of the hill and then turns almost directly at right angles at the foot and in front of the hill. The railroad cut and embankment would have enabled the enemy to come in almost perfect security within a short distance of the right flank of our troops, drawn up behind the stone wall on the telegraph road, and, by a rapid charge, to have our troops at the most serious disadvantage. Their advance could not have been effectively checked by the artillery on Marye's Hill, owing to the conformation of the ground.

It is due to the brave and skillful officers and cannoneers to say, that their cool, well-directed and most efficient fire not only aided materially in repulsing the direct attack on Marye's Hill, but in pre-

venting the right flank of this position being turned by the enemy. While saying this, however, I wish to give all due praise to the gallant artillery corps who occupied so successfully the crest of Marye's Hill. I have been thus diffuse in describing the topography of the battle field, as I think it due to our troops, both infantry and artillery, that the fact should be known, that not to the natural strength of our position, but to the skill and generalship of our leaders, and the gallantry, courage, and well-directed aim of our cannoneers and infantry, are we indebted for our most brilliant victory.

Forty-eight guns were placed under my charge during the engagement: Captain Reid's battery, three guns occupied, the position immediately to the right of the telegraph road. Next to this battery, one of the thirty-pounder Parrott guns (Richmond manufactory) was placed. It was replaced by a Whitworth gun of Captain Love's battery. Next on the right, and on the hill back of Howison's house, and in the following order were placed two six-pounder smooth-bore guns and two ten-pounder Parrotts, under the command of Captain Macon, of the Richmond Fayette artillery. The smooth-bore guns fired only round shot. Next, three pieces, Parrotts, of Captain R. L. Cooper's battery. This battery was withdrawn to another position and replaced by three pieces, one Parrott and two three-inch rifles, of Capt. Branch's battery. Next, two Parrotts of Capt. Coalter's battery, and one thirty-pounder Parrott, (Richmond manufactory.) This gun was commanded by Lieutenant Anderson, of Captain Ell's battery. Both of the Richmond guns did good service, but exploded during the engagement. Next, one three-inch rifle, commanded by Lieutenant Taylor, of Captain Eubank's battery. Next, one ten-pounder Parrott, commanded by Lieutenant Blunt of Captain Dearing's battery. Next, five pieces, under the command of Major S. P. Hamilton, consisting of two ten-pounder Parrotts, of first company Richmond howitzers, Captain McCarthy, and three rifled guns of Captain Ross' battery. Captain Mosely's battery, six pieces, had been placed in the rear of Marye's Hill, with a view to fire upon the enemy, in case they succeeded in taking that position. This battery occupied a position of danger and responsibility, and their courage and firmness, under fire, were well exhibited. Of this battery, two men were wounded, one horse killed, five public horses and Captain Mosely's horse wounded.

Besides these, there were twelve short-range pieces, under command of Major Nelson; two pieces of Captain McCarthy's battery, and three pieces of Captain Coalter's battery. These guns did not fire during the engagement.

In the Yankee accounts of the battle, it is stated that about one-fifth of the killed and wounded were from the artillery. When it is recollect that this account takes in the losses on their left, where we used but little artillery, it would seem probable that their proportion of losses from the artillery in the battle in front of Marye's Hill was much greater.

I have the honor to be, Major, very respectfully,

H. C. CABELL,

*Colonel and Chief of Artillery, Major Gen. McLaw's Div.*

# REPORT OF CAPTAIN D. LANG, OF EIGHTH FLORIDA REGIMENT.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH FLORIDA REGIMENT, }  
December 16, 1862. }

Major J. H. WHITNER,  
*Assistant Adjutant General of Perry's Brigade :*

MAJOR : I have the honor to report that, in conformity with orders, I moved my command on the night of the 8th instant, above Fredericksburg, near the canal, and relieved the twelfth Mississippi regiment, then on duty as a reserve force for the support of our pickets.

On the morning of the 11th instant, at about five o'clock, I received orders to report with my command at once, at the market house, to Brigadier General Barksdale. Before reaching the above place, I was intercepted by General Barksdale and ordered to a point on the river forming the site of the old ferry, and instructed to confer with Lieutenant Colonel Fizer, commanding seventeenth Mississippi regiment; as to the best manner of disposing of my force to prevent the enemy from effecting a crossing. I was informed by General Barksdale that the enemy were attempting another crossing below the city, and, as the ford at that point was weak, I was to send three companies of my command to strengthen the same. I immediately placed companies A, F, and D, under command of Captain Boyd, with instructions in conformity with the above. I then formed the remaining companies in line of battle, in such manner as would best command the crossing and afford a cover for my men. The enemy were seen on the opposite bank, drawn up in two lines of battle, and his pontooniers were busily engaged in constructing a bridge. It was understood between Colonel Fizer and myself—my command being in position—that he would open fire and I would continue the same. At about half past five, A. M., the pontooniers having advanced the bridge about two-thirds across the river, the seventeenth Mississippi opened fire, and my command at once did the same, with good effect, the enemy being compelled to abandon his work and flee to points of security. The force of the enemy supporting the pontooniers immediately opened a heavy fire with artillery and musketry, which was kept up almost continuously the whole day. Each attempt of the pontooniers to continue their work was met by a well directed fire from my command. Four officers of my command and about twenty enlisted men were wounded, and seven killed, when I was borne from the field, having received a severe wound in the head. The command then devolved upon Captain Love, who maintained the position, though exposed to a galling fire of shell, shot, canister and musketry, until about four o'clock, P. M., when, in accordance with orders, he withdrew his force. I regret that the absence of Capt. Boyd, who, together with the three companies composing his command, are missing, renders it impossible to give a report of the service performed by him. It is proper to remark that Captain Boyd

regarded the position entrusted to him as so exposed and admitting of so little means of escape, that he objected to occupying the same until the order was repeated. I am pleased to say that my command behaved in a manner creditable to their State and the noble cause in which they were engaged. Below I furnish you with a list of the casualties of the eighth Florida regiment.

Captain D. Lang, commanding regiment, seriously wounded in the head; Assistant Surgeon D. Hooper lost a leg.

Company B.—Privates T. M. Gray and J. N. Marshall, killed. First Lieutenant Hector Bruce, wounded in neck, slight; corporal Charles McCall, head, severe; corporal T. Harper, hand, slight; privates J. P. Bracewell, abdomen, serious; George S. Lambert, J. F. Cox, J. R. Prevalt, slight; J. R. Green missing.

Company A.—Sergeants J. N. Fielding, wounded, slightly; N. H. Allman, missing. Privates J. Bootright, F. Briant, G. W. Crawley, J. Driggers, D. Howlk, B. J. Redding, G. B. Ross and A. Williams, missing.

Company C.—Privates T. Saunders and E. Curl, wounded, severe; H. Daughtry, slight.

Respectfully,

D. LANG,  
*Captain commanding Regiment.*

## REPORT OF CAPTAIN MAURIN.

CAMP NEAR DIMMAN'S FARM, }  
December 18, 1862. }

To General PERRY:

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my battery in the engagements before Fredericksburg:

The signal gun fired Thursday morning, the 11th instant, found every man at his post. I had two sections of my battery on the field, the first commanded by Lieutenant Prosper Landry, and the other by Lieutenant Camille Mollere. The four first bastions, immediately on the left of the plank road, were the positions assigned and occupied.

As soon as the fog, which covered us until about nine o'clock, A.M., had disappeared, the enemy opened fire on me from his enormous field batteries and heavy guns on the opposite bank of the river, his shots falling around, some striking the works, but none doing any injury. This he repeated at intervals, each succeeding day, but with no better result for him, or none worse for me. According to orders, I withheld my fire until late in the evening, when the enemy came down to cross, but the increasing darkness preventing me from seeing the effects of my shots, I ceased firing.

Friday morning a company of sharpshooters advanced on my left, but a few well directed shots from Mollere's section drove them back into the town. The enemy was now seen coming down in force from the opposite hills, in order to cross. The distance was rather too great for much accuracy, yet a shell from my ten-pound Parrott proved effective, bursting in the midst of an advancing column, causing it to stagger, making some run, and sending the mounted officers to arrest the flight of the fugitives. That this shot effected more than a mere panic was attested a short time after by the arrival on that spot of four ambulances, which returned with their load of killed and wounded.

Saturday morning, a column of the enemy being seen crossing the street of which the plank road is a prolongation, a few shots from the first piece forced it to take another line of march, behind the brow of the hills. But when his heavy columns debouched from the town and were marching across the valley, in line of battle, to attack our lines, the second and third pieces were the only guns that could be brought to bear on them, and so effectually did they do this that the enemy brought forward immediately, in front of the edge of the town, eight pieces, which opened on me so furiously that they succeeded in diverting my fire, but not before I had fired more than two hundred rounds. Their shots were so well directed that I could only occasionally give a round to the infantry, whenever the opportunity occurred. What harm I did them their smoke, as well as mine, prevented me from seeing, yet I saw one shell burst fairly among one of

his detachments. A regiment now came forward to support them, which was driven back by Lieutenant Mollere's section. It was then that Captain Latrobe, of General Longstreet's staff, came and suggested the propriety of dislodging two or three regiments standing behind a steep hill, which not only protected, but also concealed them from our men, on whom they were evidently preparing to make a charge. But my ten-pound Parrott could not be brought to bear on them without taking it out of the bastion, and to do this were to meet almost certain death from the guns in front, which had by this time obtained a perfect range. However, the suggestion was no sooner made than Lieutenant Landry ordered it out, and, together with Captain Latrobe, helped the men to pull and put it in position. It was scarcely out and not yet in position, when cannoneer Linopier fell dead, pierced to the heart by a piece of shell. The fate of their comrade seemed to inspire my men with renewed determination, and, undaunted by the shots of the guns and bullets of the sharpshooters, which were flying thick and fast around them, they behaved with the calm courage which deserves the highest praise. The piece was loaded and fired with such precision that not one shot was lost, but every one telling with frightful effect. It was loaded for the fourth time and was ready to fire, when it was disabled by a shell, which broke a wheel and at the same time wounded three men, (Corporal Thomas Morelli, whose skill as gunner cannot be too highly prized; and cannoneer Dernot Leblanc, whose foot has since been amputated, and P. Perey, severely wounded in three different places) But the object was accomplished; some fled, some were killed, and the remainder dared not leave their cover. At night the broken wheel was replaced and the piece relieved. Of the first piece, cannoneers Adolphe Grilhe and F. Babin were wounded, the former severely and the latter slightly. Three horses were killed and two wounded.

Nothing worth mentioning was done on Sunday. At night I was relieved by Captain Jordan, after having been in position since Sunday night, the 1st instant. My third section, of six-pounder guns, was not engaged, but on Sunday night, the 14th instant, it was ordered in front, where it is at present, occupying works on the left.

Before closing this report, I can but render praise to Lieutenants Landry and Mollere, for their gallant conduct, and to my cannoneers and drivers. Casualties: one killed and five wounded; three horses killed and two wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

V. MAURIN,  
Captain commanding Donaldsonville Artillery.

REPORT OF CAPTAIN E. TALIAFERRO.

HEADQUARTERS McLAWS' DIVISION, Dec. 29, 1862.

Major J. M. GOGGIN, A. A. G.:

MAJOR: I herewith transmit to you a report of the ordnance stores captured by this command in the recent battles around Fredericksburg:

1,500 small arms; 200,000 rounds of small arm ammunition; 400 sets of accoutrements; 300 hundred knapsacks; 145 cartridge boxes, extra; 695 rounds twelve-pounder shell and spherical case; 120 twelve-pounder shot; 240 rounds of Parrott shells, different calibres; 200 three-inch shell, of various kinds.

A considerable proportion of the shells, which were collected in the streets and houses, are somewhat damaged, but capable of being again rendered serviceable. The arms and accoutrements are, for the most part, in good condition, and the small arm ammunition uninjured.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. TALIAFERRO,  
*Captain and Ordnance Officer of Division.*

## REPORT OF CAPTAIN LEWIS.

HEADQUARTERS LEWIS' BATTERY, December 18, 1862.

Brigadier General WILCOX,  
*Commanding Brigade:*

GENERAL: I beg to submit the following report of the part taken by my battery in the battle fought before Fredericksburg:

I was placed in position on the hill immediately opposite the ford between Falmouth and Fredericksburg, on the night of the 23d of November, and commenced throwing up earthworks to protect the guns and cannoneers, which were completed before the enemy attempted to cross the river.

On Thursday morning, the 11th of December, after the signal guns were fired, we were at our guns, ready for action, and there remained, without firing a gun, until late in the evening, when I saw a column of infantry (about two regiments) advancing to cross the upper pontoon bridge, when I gave the command to commence firing. We fired rapidly for a short time, driving the second regiment back behind Lacy's house.

A little later in the day we fired at some cavalry and artillery, which soon withdrew from sight. I could have fired much more, but my orders were very strict about wasting ammunition; and only fired when certain of doing them damage. We slept at our guns that night.

On Friday, the 12th instant, we engaged at various times in firing at batteries crossing the river. About three o'clock, P. M., a column of infantry (about a brigade) came in sight. I opened on them immediately, throwing shell in the head of their column, scattering them and doing them much damage, causing them to change their course, and move back around Lacy's house. When we ceased firing, their ambulances came after the wounded. I could, with a glass, see many dead lying on the field after the ambulances had carried off the wounded. Later in the day I fired at some cavalry crossing the river at the ford. Again their ambulances were called into use.

On Saturday, I fired on infantry, cavalry and artillery, whenever they came within easy range, with what effect I could not tell.

On Sunday, I only fired a few shots at cavalry. Up to Sunday night, we fired about four hundred rounds, at which time I was relieved by a battery of smooth-bore guns, and moved back to the position formerly occupied by Captain Woolfolk's battery, since which time we have remained quiet.

I am happy to state that, although subjected to an enfilading fire of more than twenty guns, (and some of them their heaviest,) our works, though frequently struck, were so strong that none passed through, but several passed over the top and through the embrasure into the pits. I lost none killed, and only two wounded—privates Hughes, in leg slightly, and Hailey, in head, from concussion. One

horse was slightly wounded. I think we could have done them much more damage but for defectiveness of ammunition, causing us to lay aside our former experience of artillerists.

I have, General, the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. LEWIS,

*Captain commanding Lewis' Light Artillery.*

## REPORT OF CAPTAIN GOVAN.

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY B, SEVENTEENTH MISSISSIPPI REG'T, {  
December 31, 1862. }

Colonel FIZER,

*Seventeenth Mississippi Regiment :*

SIR : The Florida companies that reported to me on the 11th instant were ordered into position on my right. The entire command, in my opinion, did not constitute forty men. They were ordered to conform to the movement of the command. The officers in command of said companies failed repeatedly to obey my commands, when ordered to fire on the bridge-builders ; and so silent was his command that I hardly knew he was in position. His excuse for not firing was that his position was too much exposed, and firing would draw the fire of artillery. I was informed that the officer was withdrawing his command by two o'clock. I passed the order down the line to fall back, which was promptly obeyed. I am confident that if any were captured it was from inefficiency, and from fear of being killed in the retreat. The position was held until sunset.

Very respectfully,

A. R. GOVAN, *Captain Company B.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL FIZER.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH MISSISSIPPI REGIMENT,  
Near Fredericksburg, December 31, 1862. }

Lieutenant JOHN A. BARKSDALE,

A. A. A. General Third Brigade:

LIEUTENANT: It becoming my duty to report to you the action of the eighth Florida regiment, commanded by Captain Lang, during the engagement at Fredericksburg, December 11, 1862, I submit the following:

About five o'clock, A. M., of the morning of the 11th, General Barksdale came to me, at the ferry near Commerce street, accompanied by a portion of the eighth Florida regiment, numbering about one hundred and fifty men, I suppose. He said to me, "assist Captain Lang, commanding, in putting his battalion in position," which I proceeded to do immediately, suggesting to Captain L. to place his battalion on my left, which could be in point-blank range of the enemy, above the bridge then being rapidly constructed by them—my regiment bearing on the front and from a point below. Such disposition being made, we easily swept the enemy from their bridge, from above, below and in front. The battalion did good service and acted gallantly while commanded by Captain L. He obeyed my suggestions with alacrity, and proved himself a worthy, gallant and efficient officer, but fell, severely wounded, about eleven o'clock, A. M., after which time I received but little aid from the regiment, as it seemed troubled and in want of a commander. I am compelled to state that a certain lieutenant (his name I do not recollect) so far forgot himself as to draw his pistol and threaten to kill some of my sharpshooters if they fired again, as it would draw the enemy's fire on the position. As to the conduct of the portion of the regiment sent to reinforce Captain Govan, I refer you to his enclosed report.

Very respectfully,

JOHN C. FIZER,

Lieutenant Colonel commanding Seventeenth Mississippi Reg't.

## REPORT OF COLONEL FIZER.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTEENTH MISSISSIPPI REGIMENT,  
Near Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 19, 1862.

To JOHN R. BARKSDALE,  
*Assistant Adjutant General :*

SIR: I have the honor of submitting the following report of the action of the seventeenth regiment Mississippi volunteers, while defending the passage of the Rappahannock, opposite the city of Fredericksburg, on the morning of the 11th December, 1862:

Being ordered to the city on picket duty on the 9th instant, I was ordered to dispose of my regiment so as to guard the river from the ferry to a point about three-quarters of a mile below. I promptly made such disposition as I thought would check the enemy, if he attempted to force a passage at or between either point indicated. The line of pickets consisted of two wings, the right commanded by Captain A. G. Govan, and the left by Captain A. J. Pulliam. The reserve I stationed at or near the market-house. About eleven o'clock, P. M., of the 10th instant, you ordered me to double my pickets, which was promptly done, by sending to the right wing companies I and K, and to the left companies H and C; and, about four o'clock, A. M., of the 11th instant, you, in person, ordered me with my reserve, consisting of companies D, E, G, and part of F, to repair at once to the upper ford, as the enemy were rapidly putting in their pontoons, preparatory to crossing. I reached the point as soon as possible, and, on getting there, found the enemy busily working on the bridge, having extended it about thirty feet on the water. On reaching this point, I relieved Captain Pulliam and assumed command in person. You having left it discretionary with me when to begin the attack, I immediately made such disposition of the seven companies as I thought would be most effective. Knowing there were many families occupying the houses on the margin of the river, I deemed it proper to notify all the women and children of their danger, and give them time to get from under range of the enemy's guns. This being accomplished about five, A. M., I ordered my men to fire on the bridge builders, which they obeyed promptly and deliberately, and I think with stunning effect, the command being echoed by Captain Govan on the right, in the same manner and with equal effect, causing the enemy to throw down their implements and quit their work in great confusion. After which they immediately opened a heavy, galling and concentrated fire of musketry and artillery upon both wings for an hour, and, supposing they had driven us from our position, they again began their work on the bridges. But as soon as we discovered them at work we renewed the attack and drove them pell mell from the bridges. They made nine desperate attempts to finish their bridges, but were severely punished and promptly repulsed at every attempt. They used their artillery incessantly, with a heavy detachment of sharpshooters, for twelve hours,

we holding our position firmly the whole time until about half past four, P. M., when they increased their artillery and infantry, and their batteries becoming so numerous and concentrated, we could not use our rifles. Being deprived of all protection, we were compelled to fall back to Caroline street, and, from there, were ordered from town. Having to abandon my position (on the left) believing Captain Govan still holding the lower bridge, and knowing the enemy to have crossed, I immediately despatched a courier to notify him to fall back, fearing he would be taken. He rendered me very valuable assistance, and held his position firmly and with great gallantry and unusual firmness, supported by a part of the gallant eighteenth Mississippi regiment, composed of companies A, I and K. Lieutenant Radclif deserves special notice for his able assistance to Captain Govan. I call your attention especially to the gallant conduct of Lieutenant Ourster, commanding company F. Much credit is due to Lieutenant G. E. Thurmond, company B, acting adjutant, for his promptness, coolness and efficiency in face of danger. Lieutenant Sweeney, of company D, deserves much credit for promptness and efficiency. Captain G. R. Cherry, with his gallant company, stood the shot and shell like veterans, as did the commands of Captains Pulliam and Middleton and Lieutenants Patton and Lindly. I cannot close without according to Wm. C. Nelson, private of company G, the highest praise for his services as courier, bearing dispatches when shot and shell fell thickest and fastest. Much credit is also due to private C. H. Johnson, company F, for his valuable services as courier. First Lieutenant Jonas B. Clayton, company G, quit his post, severely wounded, about three o'clock, P. M., after having done valuable service with his gallant company. Colonel Carter, of the thirteenth Mississippi regiment, furnished me with ten valuable sharpshooters, which rendered valuable service.

Very respectfully,

JOHN C. FIZER,  
*Lieut. Col. commanding 17th regiment Mississippi vols.*

P. S.—The casualties in the regiment during the engagement were one hundred and sixteen killed, wounded and missing.

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL RICE.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BATTALION S. C. INFANTRY, {  
December 22, 1862. }

CAPTAIN: On Saturday morning, 13th instant, the third battalion, Kershaw's brigade, McLaws' division, South Carolina infantry, was ordered by Brigadier General Kershaw to change position, from that first assigned to it, to the mill on the crest south of Fredericksburg, there to guard a gap in the railroad embankment and prevent its passage by enemy. The order was immediately executed, but the enemy failing to make his appearance at or near the gap, the battalion was not actively engaged in the battle of the 13th instant. This position was held by the battalion until the night of the 16th instant, when it was ordered on picket guard. On Saturday morning, while marching to the mill, private A. W. Anderson, company A, was severely wounded in the head by a shell from the enemy's guns. On Tuesday, the 16th instant, private Wesley Bryant, company E, was killed by a fragment of shell.

The above report of the whereabouts of the third battalion South Carolina infantry, during the battle of the 13th instant, is respectfully submitted.

Your obedient servant,

W. G. RICE,

Lieutenant Colonel Third Battalion South Carolina Infantry.

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL BLAND.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH SOUTH CAROLINA REGIMENT, }  
Camp near Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 19, 1862. }

Captain R. C. HOLMES,  
*Assistant Adjutant General :*

SIR: I have the honor to report that, upon hearing the signal guns, on the morning of the 11th instant, I formed my regiment, about four o'clock, and marched to the position assigned me in line, on the hill to the right of the telegraph road and left of Captain Read's battery. I deployed forward the flank companies, one hundred and fifty yards, to a ditch in rear of a field upon the edge of the open plain. This position we occupied during the bombardment of the city and crossing the river by the enemy. At seven o'clock, P. M., on the 12th, I received orders to occupy, with the regiment, the ground held by our line of skirmishers and open rifle-pits during the night, advancing my skirmishers in the open field in front. The rifle-pits were finished and occupied by eight o'clock, A. M., of the 13th, (Saturday.) About ten o'clock, A. M., the enemy advanced and attacked the position held by General Cobb's brigade, of which engagement we were quiet spectators, until one o'clock, P. M., when I received orders, with the other regiments of the brigade, to reinforce General Cobb. I moved by the left flank, in rear of the third South Carolina regiment, down the telegraph road for one hundred and fifty yards, then filed to the left, across Hazel Run, up the bluff in rear of Colonel Walton's battery, to the hill in rear of Marye house, where I met Lieutenant Doby, of General Kershaw's staff, who ordered me to form the regiment in rear of Colonel Nance's third South Carolina, which was on the left and upon a line with the Marye's house. Immediately after I formed line, with the fifteenth South Carolina filed in my rear. At this time I lost several of my officers and men wounded by fragments of shell; among them Captains Roper and Hudgens and Lieutenant Lovelace. In about three-quarters of an hour, I was called upon by the commanding officer of the fifteenth North Carolina regiment to reinforce him. I at once moved by the right flank into his position, which was to the right and front of the Marye house, my three left companies being in front of the house. The position was a good one, with the crest of the hill just in our front, at which point it descended rapidly towards the enemy. About seventy yards below, and in front of us, was the telegraph road, with a stone wall or fence on the enemy's side, behind which rested three regiments of Cobb's brigade, and the second and eighth South Carolina regiments, the two latter having just reinforced them. The knoll in my front rendered it impossible for us to injure our friends, but placed us in fine range of our enemies. We would load and advance to fire, and then fall back to reload. My right flank was exposed, by a slight depression in the hill, to an oblique fire from the enemy, which was taken ad-

vantage of. Hence the greater loss in the right wing. We continued in the engagement until night, when the final charge was made and the enemy repulsed. My officers and men behaved as become South Carolinians and soldiers of Kershaw's brigade. I received valuable assistance from Major J. S. Hard and Adjutant Carwill, of this regiment, and Lieutenant Doby, of General Kershaw's staff, whose gallant conduct cannot be too highly spoken of. After night, I relieved, by order, Phillip's legion, of General Cobb's brigade, which was behind the stone fence before mentioned, in my late front. We held this position, with the wings doubled, occasionally exchanging shots with the enemy, until Tuesday morning, 10th instant, when I was ordered into the city on picket duty. We were relieved by one of General Barksdale's regiments, at seven o'clock, P. M., and marched back to camp, having been absent six days and five nights. Drs. Shine and Carlisle displayed their usual skill and energy in caring for the wounded. My loss was four killed and fifty-seven wounded. Most of the wounds are slight.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ELBERT BLAND,

*Lieutenant Colonel commanding Seventh South Carolina Regiment.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR MOODY.

B. G. HUMPHREYS,

*Colonel commanding Twenty-First Regiment Mississippi Vols.:*

SIR: In compliance with your order, on the morning of the 11th December, I took command of the right wing of the fourth regiment, composed of the following companies: company A, Lieutenant Wallcott; company C, Lieutenant Longsfied; company H, Lieutenant Brien; Company F, Captain Fitzgerald; company G, Captain Dudley, and moved to the support of Captain Govan, of the seventeenth Mississippi regiment, who was holding the enemy in check at the bridge, at the lower portion of the town. Immediately upon arriving I ordered company G to his support, but found that he had all the men he could use to advantage.

This wing remained in line in the road, about one hundred yards in the rear of Captain Govan's position, unprotected from A. M. to P. M. The dense fog, which had before concealed us from the enemy, then cleared, and they concentrated their fire upon this wing. I immediately ordered the command to retire about three hundred yards, out of range of the enemy's fire. About four, P. M., Captain Govan sent to me for assistance, I ordered forward companies C and F, which order was obeyed with promptness. In the meantime, Captain Govan received orders from General Barksdale to retire. I then took position on the railroad, a short distance in the rear, leaving two companies at the deep cut on the road, and the other three I stationed near the telegraph road, within supporting distance, and remained in this position until ordered by you, about ten, P. M., to return to camp. You, sir, have every reason to be proud of this wing. From six, A. M., to one, P. M., they were exposed to the hottest fire I ever witnessed, and I saw no disposition on the part of officers or men to move from their position until ordered. Captain Govan and the brave men of his command are deserving of the highest praise. Up to the time he was ordered to leave his position, the enemy had not succeeded in laying a plank. Braver officers and men than Captain Govan and his command cannot be found. The following is a correct list of the killed and wounded of the right wing: company A, one killed, two wounded; company C, four wounded; company H, six killed, three wounded; company F, four wounded; company G, two killed, five wounded. Total, nine killed, eighteen wounded and three missing.

I remain your obedient servant,

D. W. MOODY,

*Major Twenty-First Regiment Mississippi Volunteers.*

# REPORT OF CAPTAIN NANCE, COMMANDING REGIMENT.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD S. C. REGIMENT,  
December 20, 1862.

Captain C. R. HOLMES,  
*Assistant Adjutant General :*

SIR : As senior officer in command of the third South Carolina regiment, the duty devolves upon me to detail the operations of the same in the recent engagement at Fredericksburg, Virginia. The regiment was aroused about five o'clock, A. M., on Thursday, the 11th instant, by the firing of the signal guns, and soon afterwards a courier from Brigadier General Kershaw notified the Colonel commanding that the enemy were attempting to cross the Rappahannock river, opposite Fredericksburg, and ordered me to occupy its place in the line of battle, previously designated. Accordingly, the regiment was put in motion, and, about six o'clock, A. M., was put in position on the hill on the right of the telegraph road, and on the left of Captain Reid's battery, with the seventh South Carolina volunteers, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Bland, on our right, and the second South Carolina volunteer regiment, commanded by Lieutenant John D. Kennedy, on our left. Two companies of skirmishers (Captain Hance's company A, of rifles,) and Captain Nance's company E, rifles, were deployed so as to cover the front of our regiment, and placed in the ditch at the foot of the hill, occupied by the regiments. The orders given these company commanders were to hold their positions as long as possible, and, when compelled, to fall back upon the regiments.

Thursday and Friday witnessed no advance by the enemy upon our immediate lines. On Friday night, the line of battle was changed from the top of the hill to its base, the regiments occupying the position previously held by the two companies of skirmishers. This position was strengthened, during the night, by digging pits and throwing up earthen breastworks.

On Saturday morning, the 13th instant, the enemy opened fire upon the right and left of our lines, at about nine o'clock. About ten minutes before one o'clock, P. M., Colonel Nance received an order from Brigadier General Kershaw to extend his lines so as to occupy the works of the second South Carolina regiment on our left. This order was subsequently revoked upon the information that Colonel Kennedy had left a company to do this. About fifteen minutes after two o'clock, P. M., a verbal order was extended by Brigadier General Kershaw, ordering Colonel Nance to move his command, by the way he would designate, to the support of Brigadier General T. R. R. Cobb's command. The regiment was accordingly moved down the earthworks into the telegraph road, then down the telegraph road near the mill on —— creek, and then up the newly made road, to the top of the hill just in rear of the cemetery, and from that point across the field in the rear of Marye's house, where Brigadier General Kershaw ordered, through Major Gaillard, of the second South Carolina

regiment, that the regiment should form in line of battle and advance on a line with the second South Carolina regiment. An order was received through Lieutenant A. E. Doby, aid-de-camp, to the effect that our right should rest upon Marye's house. Soon after, Lieutenant A. E. Doby, aid-de-camp, insisted that the enemy should not be allowed to gain possession of Marye's house, and although only six companies on the line, Colonel Nance promptly brought the line forward. As the regiment reached the position, on a line with the front of Marye's house, it was exposed to a most murderous fire from the enemy, plainly visible from that point. The line was ordered to move across the chain fence. The remaining four companies had previously joined the advancing line, and the ranks made complete. When the line reached the top of the hill, the order to fire was given, and the effects must have been terrible, as the shots were delivered coolly and with an evident intention to kill. About this time, Colonel James D. Nance fell, wounded in the thigh. Not long afterwards, Lieutenant Colonel William D. Rutherford fell, shot through the right side, and not long afterwards, Major Robert C. Maffet was disabled by a ball through his arm. Here, too, Captain Rutherford P. Todd, who was acting as a field officer, was disabled by a ball in an artery of the right arm. Colonel James D. Nance, while lying down wounded, suggested to Captain William W. Hance, then commanding, that it would be better to move the regiment back a few paces into a road, parallel to the line of battle, leading from the Marye house to a street on our left, perpendicular to our line of battle. Whilst occupying this position, a vigorous and well-directed fire was kept up on the various lines, whenever they attempted to advance or expose themselves. Sharpshooters, posted about the Marye house, dealt constant and well-directed fire upon the enemy. Captains William E. Hance and John C. Summer both fell, while in command of the regiment, the former having his leg badly shattered; the latter killed by a grape-shot through the head. The command then devolved upon myself, being the senior officer present. About six o'clock, P. M., Lieutenant A. E. Doby, aid-de-camp, delivered an order to move the regiment about a hundred yards beyond our position at the Marye house, and behind a stone fence, connecting with the left of the position of Phillips' legion. Soon afterwards an order came, through Capt. C. R. Holmes, assistant adjutant general, to throw forward skirmishers, covering the line of the regiment. Accordingly, First Lieutenant R. H. Wright, commanding company E, was sent forward, and, as his command drew near some dwelling-houses, just in front of the regiment, he was fired upon by the enemy's sharpshooters, posted in the houses. Under these circumstances, and the further fact that night was upon us, the line of skirmishers were drawn back some considerable distance. About seven o'clock, Brigadier General Kemper, with two hundred and ninety men from his command, by the order of Major General Ransom, relieved this command of its position in the immediate front, and by the order of Brigadier General Kershaw, conveyed through Adjutant G. J. Pope, the regiment was moved back over the hill occupied by our batteries, near the mill on the — creek, where the

third South Carolina battalion, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Rice, was posted, and there remained until the night of the 15th instant, when, under orders received from Brigadier General Kershaw, the regiment was marched back into its former camp.

I cannot refrain from complimenting the command at the dauntless spirit and bravery displayed throughout by the officers and men. All seemed to realize the call made upon them, and none failed to respond.

The fire the regiment was called upon to sustain was certainly not surpassed by that at Savage Station, Maryland Heights and Sharpsburg. The command suffered severely in killed and wounded, as the accompanying list will show. There were twenty-five killed and one hundred and forty-two wounded; total loss, one hundred and sixty-seven.

Strength—Thirty-six commissioned officers, three hundred and sixty-four enlisted men; total, four hundred.

Respectfully,

J. K. NANCE,

*Captain commanding Third South Carolina Regiment.*

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL LUZE.

CAMP BARKSDALE'S BRIGADE,  
Near Fredericksburg, Va., December 19, 1862. }

General BARKSDALE:

SIR : It becomes my duty to report to you the action of the eighteenth Mississippi regiment in the late battle of Fredericksburg :

The night of the 10th instant the regiment picketed the river for about half a mile above, and a quarter of a mile below, the mouth of Deep Run ; that portion of the regiment not on post being encamped at Mrs. Ferneyhough's house, on the river road. About midnight I received orders from you to double my pickets, which was immediately done. Between this time and daylight I received information from my pickets that the enemy were preparing to throw a pontoon bridge across the river, opposite the lower post, above the mouth of Deep Run. You, being present at the time, ordered me to send three companies to support Captain Govan, of the seventeenth Mississippi regiment, above, and to take the rest of my command to the river, to guard the point at which it was reported the enemy were constructing the bridge, opposite my line. This was done at once. I went myself to examine the movements of the enemy, and heard them throw in the first boat, about half an hour before day. Judging them to be within easy range of the mouth of Deep Run, I lined the banks with sharpshooters, in addition to the pickets. Their boats were thrown in with great rapidity from this time until daylight, when I discovered that the boats had been floated down the river several hundred yards, making the place of crossing below and out of range from Deep Run. I immediately ordered my two companies of sharpshooters down to the crossing, to open fire on the enemy simultaneously with the pickets in their front, and moved up with the rest of the regiment, getting in position and removing a paling fence just as the fire was opened in front. The enemy were driven from the bridge, and their supports on the opposite side of the river broke ranks and were with difficulty rallied. Having accomplished this, pickets were posted near enough to watch the further movement of the enemy, with two companies concealed very near the crossing to resist any further work on the bridge or attempt to cross it, one company remaining on the upper side of Deep Run by your order. The remaining four companies of the regiment I placed in the ravine in front of the crossing, posting one where the river road crosses Deep Run, to guard the point against any sudden move of the enemy. The companies, thus stationed, remained in the position above described until about noon, when two regiments came to reinforce me, one forming on my right, the other on my left. The ground which three of my companies occupied being embraced in the positions of the above mentioned regiments, I brought them in, and remained in position to resist the crossing or advance of the enemy until half-past

three, P. M., when Colonel DeSaussure, commanding the reinforcements sent me, communicated to me an order from General Kershaw, to fall back to the river road, about one hundred and fifty yards to our rear, leaving one company, (C,) Captain Cassell's, in the ravine, with instructions to fire on the enemy as he advanced. This order was executed. The enemy crossed in our front between sundown and dark, and, advancing his skirmishers, encountered Captain Cassell's company, who fired on them and retired, in obedience to their instructions.

It is but just to state that all the above movements, after daylight, were performed under a destructive fire of the numerous guns of the enemy posted on the opposite side of the river, and that all the dangerous duties assigned them were performed, by officers and men, with the steadiness of veterans.

I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. LUSE,

*Lieutenant Colonel commanding Eighteenth Mississippi Regiment.*

REPORT OF CAPTAIN STACKHOUSE, COMMANDING  
REGIMENT.

REGIMENTAL QUARTERS, EIGHTH SOUTH CAROLINA REGIMENT, }  
December 19, 1862. }

Brigadier General KERSHAW:

GENERAL: In obedience to orders contained in circular of this date, requiring the commanders of regiments, battalions and batteries to make reports of the engagements of their commands in the late action in front of Fredericksburg, I submit the following report:

On the morning of the 11th December instant, on hearing the signal guns, I formed my regiment, and, in obedience to your orders, formed my command on your left, occupying a good position on the telegraph road, at the point where the open sands connect with the woods.

I kept this position, with but little change, till one o'clock, P. M., on the 13th, when, in obedience to your order, I moved my command, left in front, following Colonel Kennedy's (second) regiment, by a tortuous and difficult way, to the open sand on Marye's Hill. As soon as we reached the open space on the hill, by order of Colonel Kennedy, I formed my command on his right. The two commands were then, by order of Colonel Kennedy, moved rapidly to the front. On reaching the crest of the hill in front, (my right resting on a line with the cemetery,) we came to troops lying on the ground and firing to the front. Believing this to be a portion of General Cobb's brigade who had been driven from their position, I halted my command and went myself to the front, to get a view of the road in front of Marye's Hill. Finding General Cobb's brigade in position in the road, I caused my command to cease firing (they had, without orders, opened fire on the advancing Yankee lines) and moved it rapidly to the road. I formed it on the twenty-fourth Georgia regiment, then in position behind the stone fence. Without much change, we kept this position till the evening of the 16th. By your order, I was permitted to form my command in four ranks on Colonel DeSaussure's (fifteenth) regiment, my right resting on the twenty-fourth Georgia regiment till the evening of the 14th, when that regiment was relieved by the tenth Georgia regiment of General Semmes' brigade.

On the evening of the 13th, the enemy attempted several times to advance on our position, but succeeded only in reaching a defile, two hundred yards in front, which concealed them from view from our position. Notwithstanding the long range, I believe we did the enemy much injury on his march to the defile above alluded to.

On the 14th, we confined our fire to *select* parties of the enemy.

On the 15th and 16th, I have little of interest to record in connection with my command.

I was much pleased with the conduct of my command. For casu-

alties, I beg leave to refer you to report made yesterday. Of the thirty-one killed and disabled, we lost twenty-eight in reaching our position.

I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. T. STACKHOUSE,

*Captain commanding Eighth South Carolina Regiment.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL DESAUSSURE.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH REGIMENT SOUTH CAROLINA VOL., }  
December 20, 1862. }

Captain C. R. Holmes,  
*Assistant Adjutant General :*

SIR: In compliance with instructions from headquarters, I have the honor to report that, on Saturday morning, the 11th instant, the fifteenth regiment South Carolina volunteers moved down the Bowling Green road to the support of the picket at the Ferneyhough farm, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Luse, eighteenth Mississippi, and was formed on the right, upon the edge of Deep Run, in front of the road, with the sixteenth Georgia, Colonel Bryan, on the left of Lieutenant Colonel Luse. The command remained in that position, with three companies thrown forward towards the river as skirmishers, until ordered to retire to the Bowling Green road by General Kershaw, late in the day. The regiment remained on picket all night, until five o'clock, A. M., Friday morning, when, by order of Major General McLaws, it resumed its proper position in line.

On Saturday, the 13th instant, the regiment marched off by the left flank, with the rest of the brigade, to the support of General Cobb's brigade, under Marye's Hill. Passing to the rear of the batteries, the regiment halted and lay down in line of battle, in rear of the Marye house, until, by an order extended through Assistant Adjutant General Holmes, it was marched across the hill, under a heavy fire, to the rear of the cemetery, as a support to Colonel Walton's batteries. Later in the evening the regiment was marched down to the stone wall, on the road below Marye's Hill, to the support of the second South Carolina regiment, and there remained until the evacuation of the city of Fredericksburg by the enemy, the night of the 15th instant.

The conduct of the officers and privates of the regiment throughout the entire five days, from the 11th to the 16th December, was such as to meet with my unqualified approbation.

I would respectfully bring to the notice of the Brigadier General the services of the staff officers actually engaged: Adjutant James M. Davis, for the gallant and prompt execution of all orders extended by him; Surgeon James and Assistant Surgeon Wallace, also the Rev. H. B. McCallum, chaplain of the regiment, for their skillful and assiduous attention to the wounded; and Ordnance Sergeant R. W. Boyd, for his prompt attention to the duties of his department.

The regiment went into action with twenty-seven commissioned officers and three hundred and seventy-seven enlisted men; and had two commissioned officers (Lieutenants Barren and Derrick)

wounded, one sergeant and one private killed, and fifty-two enlisted men wounded, of which a tabular statement has been heretofore furnished.

Respectfully submitted,

W. D. DESAUSSURE,  
*Colonel Fifteenth Regiment South Carolina Volunteers.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL NANCE.

RICHMOND, December 24, 1862.

Captain C. R. HOLMES,  
*Assistant Adjutant General :*

SIR: Early in the morning of the 13th instant, I took my position in line of battle just to the right of the telegraph road, as you approach Fredericksburg, and immediately at the foot of the first range of hills from the river. Except some slight shelling, which annoyed us and wounded one or more of my men, nothing of special interest occurred to us until about two, P. M., when, by command of Brigadier General Kershaw, I moved by the left, out of some breastworks which I had thrown up the night before, down the telegraph road five or six hundred yards, filed to the left, and, crossing the branch running by its side, took the road leading over the high hill on the left of the telegraph road, and into the open field behind Marye's house. When within five or six hundred yards of this house, Lieutenant Doby, A. D. C., delivered to me an order to form my regiment and move forward and occupy the crest of the hill at Marye's house, with my right resting at the house. I immediately began to close up my regiment to execute the order, when Major Gaillard rode up, and, speaking for Brigadier General Kershaw, extended substantially the same order; and, at my request, gave me the direction of the crest which I was to occupy, so that I could form parallel to it before advancing. The regiment was considerably strung out in the flank movement made in coming to this point, and while waiting for it to close up, Lieutenant Doby, A. D. C., came to me, telling me to hurry up, and represented to me that Marye's house was in danger of being possessed by the enemy. Seeing the importance of the point, and thus having my fears for its safety excited, I advanced at once with that portion of my regiment which was formed, and left my adjutant, Lieutenant G. J. Pope, to bring the other companies forward, as soon as they formed. When we reached the neighborhood of Marye's house a severe fire was opened upon us; but we steadily advanced to the crest of the hill, when my men laid down and opened fire on the enemy, who were in the flat in our front. By this time their fire was strongly directed against us. The other companies of my regiment came up immediately after we became engaged. I went to the right to see that they were put in proper position, and was shot down, a minie ball entering my left thigh just to the right and above my knee, while discharging this duty. At that time I declined to be moved, but continued to direct and encourage the men, who were already doing manfully. I soon saw, however, that we were too much exposed, and that we were contending at disadvantage, owing to the fact that we were engaged at a great distance and the enemy's guns were of superior range. Having been moved back to Marye's house, I sent word to the officer in command to withdraw far enough to get shelter

behind the crest of the hill, without retiring too far to deliver an effective fire. Accordingly Major Maffett, then commanding, with drew to the road running beside the river fence, in Marye's yard, wher- I believe the regiment held its position and continued its fire until the close of the battle. Afterwards, I sent directions to the officer commanding to send a detail after ammunition. He did so, and this was my last official communication with the regiment for the day. An account of what subsequently occurred and a list of the casualties in the regiment will, I presume, be furnished by some other officer. It is my duty and pleasure to testify to the courage and fortitude with which these dangers were met and these fiery trials were endured by my brave comrades, so long as they were under my observation. Several valuable officers were wounded—one, Captain W. W. Hance, who has suffered amputation of his leg, is lost to the service, if he shall not unfortunately be lost to his friends. He was a superior and gallant officer, and his loss is a great one to the regiment. Captain John C. Summer, a most successful officer; Captain Perrin Foster, an efficient, zealous and conscientious officer, and Lieutenants Hollingsworth and Hill, both young lieutenants of promise, were killed. The three field officers, Captain Todd, senior captain, and Captain Hance, third senior captain present, were wounded, and Captain Summer, second senior captain present, was killed; thus putting the six ranking officers of the regiment *hors de combat*. Ours is a bloody record; but we trust it is a highly honorable one.

Very respectfully,

JAMES D. NANCE,  
*Colonel commanding Third South Carolina Regiment.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL CARTER.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH MISSISSIPPI REGIMENT,  
Near Fredericksburg, Va., December 28, 1862.

GENERAL: In accordance with your order, I marched my regiment, at about five o'clock on the morning of the 11th instant, to the market-house in Fredericksburg, when I was ordered by you to take "position on Caroline street, await Lieutenant Colonel Fizer's orders, send him reinforcements whenever he called on me to do so, and should he be enabled to hold his position, then in that event to withdraw my regiment to the market-house." I accordingly took position on Caroline street, immediately in rear of the position occupied by Lieutenant Colonel Fizer, and opened communication with him, where I remained until about four o'clock, P. M., under a very heavy and destructive fire from the batteries of the enemy on the opposite side of the river.

About two o'clock, P. M., Lieutenant Colonel Fizer asked me for ten men to act as sharpshooters, which I promptly sent him. About four o'clock, P. M., Lieutenant Colonel Fizer sent to me for two companies, which I was proceeding with, when I met him retiring with his command to the market-house, being unable to hold his position longer.

I immediately formed my regiment and withdrew it to the market-house, when I was ordered by you to form in the next street (towards the river) and engage the enemy, but, before I could do so, I ascertained that the enemy occupied the street on which I was ordered to form and was advancing. I immediately disposed of my regiment on the street which I then occupied, (Princess Anne,) so as to command as many streets running at right angles with the river as I possibly could, and engaged the enemy at once, driving him towards the river, after a spirited engagement of two hours.

Having fired the last gun at the retreating enemy, I was then ordered to withdraw my regiment from the town, which order I promptly obeyed.

The enemy's loss after crossing the river, in the engagement with my regiment, is estimated to be over two hundred killed and wounded. I refer you to the report already furnished you of the loss which we sustained.

Captain J. L. Clark was killed, by a solid shot, early in the morning. He was a promising young officer. Captain T. W. Thurman was dangerously wounded later in the day, fell in the hands of the enemy, and, in all probability, is dead. Lieutenant J. M. Stovall is missing, and is supposed to be killed.

I wish to call your attention to the gallant and meritorious conduct of Captain G. L. Donald, who had immediate command of several companies, which did fine execution, without sustaining any serious loss.

I wish, also, to make mention of the coolness, bravery, and  
soldierly-like conduct of both officers and enlisted men of my com-  
mand.

J. W. CARTER,  
*Colonel commanding Thirteenth Mississippi Regiment.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL J. THOMPSON BROWN.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST VIRGINIA ARTILLERY, }  
December 19, 1862. }

Captain A. S. PENDLETON,  
*Assistant Adjutant General:*

CAPTAIN: In obedience to orders, I beg leave to submit the following report of the operations of my command in the late engagement before Fredericksburg:

About ten o'clock, Saturday morning, my batteries were ordered to a position in rear of Hamilton's house, ready to be called on as occasion might require. About twelve o'clock, by order of Col. Crutchfield, I sent two Parrott rifles from Captain Poague's battery, under command of Lieutenant Graham, and two similar pieces from the third Howitzers, under Lieutenant Utz, to report to Major Pelham, on the right of the railroad. Shortly afterwards, I was ordered to send to the same point four other rifle guns, viz: two ten-pounder Parrotts and one brass rifle from second Howitzers, and one three-inch rifle from Captain Dance's battery, all under the command of Captain Watson, (second Howitzers.) These eight guns were actively engaged, and suffered severely from the enemy's artillery and sharpshooters. I have to lament the loss on this part of the field of a gallant and most excellent officer, Lieutenant Utz, commanding third Howitzers. The ammunition of most of the pieces was exhausted before dark, and the pieces themselves withdrawn. Having obtained ammunition for the two rifles of the third Howitzers, I sent them back to the field, where they remained, in company with the three pieces of Captain Watson's battery, until about nine o'clock. About two o'clock, by order of Colonel Crutchfield, I placed in position, on the hill to the extreme right of our infantry line, the two twenty-pounder Parrotts of Captain Poague's battery. These two pieces, unaided, engaged the enemy's artillery, and afterwards opened upon the infantry. The exact range of the hill having been obtained by much previous firing, our loss at this point was heavy. Among the killed was Lieutenant McCorkle, a brave soldier and estimable gentleman. Later in the evening, Lieutenant Colonel Coleman brought up two howitzers from Captain Dance's battery, and placed them on the left of Captain Poague's pieces. Lieutenant Colonel Coleman was severely wounded at this point, but remained on the field until after dark. I fear I shall lose the assistance of this valuable officer for several months. Late in the evening, two pieces of Captain Hupp's battery, under Lieutenant Griffin, were ordered to the right of the railroad, and were successfully engaged with the enemy's sharpshooters. Captain Brooke's battery, although not actively engaged, was exposed to the enemy's fire on Saturday and Sunday. I cannot refrain from expressing my high admiration for the conduct of the officers and men of my command in the action before Fredericksburg. After marching all of the previous night, they came upon a field

strewn with the wrecks of other batteries, and behaved in a manner which elicited the praise of all who saw them. I append a list of casualties:

Lieutenant Colonel Coleman, wounded in leg. Poague's battery, six killed and ten wounded. Watson's second Howitzers, one killed and seven wounded. Smith's third Howitzers, three killed and three wounded. Dance's battery, none killed, two wounded. Hupp's battery, none killed, one wounded. Brooke's battery, none killed, two wounded. Total killed, ten. Total wounded, twenty-six.

I beg leave to call attention to the fact that but few of the shell for Parrott rifles exploded, owing to imperfect fuzes.

Respectfully submitted,

J. THOMPSON BROWN,

*Colonel First Virginia Artillery.*

## REPORT OF MAJOR BRIDGFORD.

HEADQUARTERS PROVOST MARSHAL SECOND CORPS,  
January 9, 1863.

Major A. S. PENDLETON,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: In obedience to an order from the Lieutenant General commanding, I herewith transmit the operations of the provost guard, consisting of the battalion and Captain Upshur's squadron of cavalry:

On the 11th December I received an order to move towards Fredericksburg, with two days' rations cooked and placed in haversacks.

December 12th, I moved at dawn on the Fredericksburg road to Hamilton's crossing, where I placed a guard for the purpose of arresting all stragglers; also placed a guard, consisting of cavalry and infantry, along the whole line of the corps, in rear of the line of battle about half a mile, with instructions to arrest all men without proper passes, on authorized business for their commands, to be brought to the guard placed on the railroad. There my brigade surgeon was stationed to examine all men claiming to be sick, without proper passes from their brigade or regimental surgeons. Numbers, however, were really sick and totally unfit for duty. They were without passes. When a sufficient number were collected together, I sent them, under charge of cavalry, to be delivered to the first major general whose command was going into the fight, to place them in front and most exposed position of his command. I am happy to state the number arrested and sent forward were comparatively few, in consideration of the size of the army.

During the 13th and 14th, the number sent in under guard were only five hundred and twenty-six. Numbers were turned back, owing to their not having proper passes to return to the rear to cook, &c.

I am most happy to state I had no occasion to carry into effect the order to shoot all stragglers who refused to go forward, or if caught a second time, upon the evidence of two witnesses, to shoot them. Had I occasion to carry it into effect, it certainly should have been executed to the very letter.

During the 13th and 14th I received and placed under guard three hundred and twenty-four prisoners of war, which I sent to Richmond by order of General Lee; eleven of them were commissioned officers and paroled by me; the balance I took names, regiments, brigades and corps, as far as possible, in obedience to your order.

December 16th, I received one hundred and nine prisoners of war which I paroled and sent to Guineas Depot, under command of Captain Upshur, with instructions to have them forwarded by railroad to Richmond, if possible, which orders were carried into effect. During the same day I went through Dr. Black's and Whitehead's hospital, where I paroled twenty-three Federal prisoners.

A considerable number of wounded prisoners were sent to Richmond. They do not appear in this statement, nor could I by any means ascertain the number.

On the 17th, I received an order to move with my entire guard in rear of General D. H. Hill's division, on the Port Royal road. Captain Upshur, with his squadron, being absent, I ordered Captain Tucker to assist in bringing up the rear.

On the 18th, I camped on Mr. Brooke's farm, near where General D. H. Hill's division halted. I am happy to inform you that there was little or no straggling; the number did not exceed thirty, notwithstanding I used the cavalry in scouring the entire country around. It is my belief, so far as I was able to judge, that there was less disposition on the part of the men to shirk from duty, but on the contrary everything went to prove their willingness to do their utmost. The great mass seemed eager to confront the foe. The present system of provost guard, if carried into effect, will prevent all future straggling.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

D. B. BRIDGFORD,

*Major and Chief Provost Marshal Second Corps.*

P. S.—During the 13th there were three hundred and twenty sent back, and on the 14th two hundred and six, making the number, as above stated, five hundred and twenty-six.

*LIST OF PRISONERS CAPTURED AT FREDERICKSBURG  
BY LIEUTENANT GENERAL JACKSON'S CORPS.:*

Commissioned officers paroled,	11
Enlisted men,	445
Enlisted men paroled,	133
	<hr/>
Less 68 taken and sent by Gen. Lonstreet's corps,	389
	<hr/>
	68
	<hr/>
	521

This is the manner they were received here; five hundred and twenty-one is the amount taken.

**RETURN OF SMALL ARMS, AMMUNITION, &c., Collected on  
the Battle-Field before Fredericksburg, in the Engagements of the 12th  
and 13th of December, 1862:**

SMALL ARMS.								AMMUNITION, &c.									
Springfield Rifles.	Improved Muskets.	Altered Muskets.	Austrian Rifles.	Belgian Muskets.	Springfield Muskets.	Mississippi Rifles.	Flint-Lock Muskets.	Enfield Rifles, Calibre 67.	Enfield Rifles, Calibre 57.	Damaged Guns.	Calibre 69.	Calibre 57 x 58.	Calibre 57.	Calibre 54.	Mixed and dam- aged car- tridges.	Infty account- ments.	Belgian Rifles.
250	3148	1136	772	78	42	478	13	26	59	1406	80,000	94,000	31,000	50,000	1,800	312	

## RECAPITULATION.

Total on hand at the reserve trains.....	7,720
" retained by the first army corps.....	2,166
" " second army corps....	513
" forwarded to Richmond.....	692

## **RECAPITULATION.**

Grand total rounds of ammunition.....	255,000
<b>RECAPITULATION.</b>	
Total sets of accoutrements.....	1,800

## **RECAPITULATION IN FULL.**

Grand total of arms collected.....	11,091
Probable loss of our troops.....	2,000
Grand total of arms captured.....	9,091
" " rounds of ammunition.....	255,000
" " sets of accoutrements.....	1,800

**BRISCOE G. BALDWIN,**  
*Lieutenant Colonel and Chief of Ordnance, A. N. Y.*

HEADQUARTERS A. N. V., }  
Ordnance Office, January 20, 1863. }

## REPORT OF MAJOR WHITE.

HEADQUARTERS WHITE'S CAVALRY, December 24, 1862.

Brigadier General W. E. JONES,  
*Commanding Valley District:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to send you a detailed account of my scout since I left camp on the morning of the 10th instant. I camped that night near Hillsborough.

On the 13th I captured twelve infantrymen in the neighborhood of Hillsborough, whom I sent back to Snickersville. I learned from them that the enemy had gone in the direction of Leesburg and had about three hours start. I immediately ordered an advanced guard to push them as rapidly as possible and learn the force of their rear-guard. My advance captured six infantrymen on the way, who were also sent to Snickersville. I reached Leesburg about three, P. M. The enemy's cavalry left the town as we came in sight. My advance pushed on and encountered them about three miles below Leesburg, on the Centreville road, and, after a brisk skirmish, drove them into the rear-guard of their infantry and cavalry, capturing two and wounding three. Nobody hurt on our side. I did not deem it prudent to attack their infantry and cavalry combined with my force, and returned to the neighborhood of Waterford and camped for the night.

On the morning of the 14th I started for Waterford, where I encountered Sam Means' force, some sixty men; we charged them and drove them through the town, killing one of their lieutenants and capturing their orderly sergeant and one private; both of whom, together with those already sent to Snickersville, making twenty-two in all, were sent to your headquarters for disposal. We pursued them about five miles in the direction of Point of Rocks. Learning that there was a force of about sixty cavalry in Poolesville, I determined to push forward to that place; sent my worst horses back; sent a squad of men to watch the enemy at Harper's Ferry; they charged the pickets, capturing twenty-six, which were paroled. I crossed the Potomac at Conrad's ferry with ninety-three men about one hour by sun; arrived at Poolesville about eight, P. M. Before entering the town I learned that about one-half of their force had gone on a scout; and that the remainder were quartered in the town hall. Divided my force and charged it in two directions. Upon surrounding the hall and demanding its surrender, was answered with a volley from door and windows; we returned the fire with good effect, killing a lieutenant and the orderly sergeant, and wounding eight, including the lieutenant commanding. The hall was then surrendered; we captured twenty-one prisoners, all of whom we paroled. Our loss was one man killed.

Some of the enemy were scattered around the town and, when they heard the firing, made good their escape. We also captured forty-three horses and destroyed all the stores, consisting of clothing of various kinds, blankets, Enfield rifles and muskets, also a large lot of com-

missary stores, together with wagons, &c. Remained in the town for several hours and recrossed the Potomac at White's ford. Whilst camped at the Trap, I sent a scout to Leesburg on the 20th; they captured eight prisoners and paroled them.

I send you a list of names of all prisoners captured and paroled during my scout.

ELIJAH V. WHITE,  
*Major commanding Battalion.*

## REPORT OF CAPTAIN LATIMER.

CAMP NEAR PORT ROYAL, December 25, 1862.

Major S. HALE,

*A. A. A. General Ewell's Division:*

MAJOR: In obedience to orders, I would most respectfully beg leave to submit the following report of the operations of the batteries of Ewell's division in the engagements with the enemy near Fredericksburg, on the 13th and 14th of the present month:

Early on the morning of the 13th, I was ordered by General Early to take command of the batteries of the division as acting chief of artillery, and I immediately reported to Colonel Crutchfield, chief of artillery second corps, for instructions. He ordered me to park the batteries in a sheltered spot, behind a range of hills, about half a mile behind our line of battle, and there await orders. He shortly after returned and directed me to take my own battery, under command of Lieutenant Tanner, and Captain Brown's, under command of Lieutenant Plater, to the relief of some batteries occupying a position near the extreme left of the line formed by the second corps, and to report to Brigadier General Pender, whose brigade then occupied this position. Only five guns were required, and, by direction of General Pender, I relieved five of the guns at that point by the two rifles belonging to my battery and the three rifles composing Captain Brown's. The position on which these guns were posted was not a very advantageous one, but the best that could be selected. It was a small rising in an open field, with a wood to the right, in which a portion of General A. P. Hill's division was posted, and on the left was a ditch and bank running parallel with the railroad, behind which a portion of General Hood's division was posted. In front, at the distance of about a mile, were four of the enemy's batteries, with lines of skirmishers considerably advanced in front of said batteries. We were exposed to quite a heavy fire from these batteries, but gained the position without loss. My orders were to fire only at infantry unless the batteries advanced, which orders I obeyed, firing only once at them, and then only to cover the advance of General Law's brigade, which was made late in the day. I was kept constantly engaged at this point from eleven, A. M., when I gained it, until night, repelling repeated advances of the enemy by the use of canister. I relieved these batteries that night by Captain Carrington's battery, which engaged the enemy next morning, upon the advance of their skirmishers, successfully driving them back. Shortly after moving to the left with the batteries spoken of above, Captain D'Aquin's and the Staunton artillery, Lieutenant Garber, were ordered by Colonel Crutchfield to the right of our lines, to report to Major Pelham, where they were engaged most of the day. Not having personally superintended their movements during the day, I am unable to describe them minutely. Captain Dement's battery was ordered to the front

on the 14th, where it remained in battery until we marched to this point, without, however, becoming engaged at any time. We have to lament the loss of Captain L. E. D'Aquin, of the Louisiana Guard artillery. A more gallant officer or more worthy man never fell upon the field of battle. Also, Lieutenant Grayson, Captain Brown's battery. He fell, nobly, at his post. The losses in the different batteries are as follows:

Louisiana Guard artillery, Captain D'Aquin—Captain D'Aquin, killed; one private wounded; two horses disabled; one gun disabled.

Captain Brown's battery, Lieutenant Plater—Lieutenant Grayson and one private killed; nine wounded; sixteen horses disabled; also, one gun and one caisson.

Staunton artillery, Lieutenant Garber—None killed or wounded; one horse disabled and one gun carriage, afterwards repaired.

Courtney artillery, Lieutenant Tanner—One private killed; Lieutenant Tanner and six privates wounded; eight horses disabled.

Captain Carrington's battery—Four men wounded; seven horses disabled.

Captain Dement's battery—None killed or wounded; four horses disabled.

I am pleased to be able to say that all the officers and men under my command acted in a highly creditable manner, promptly and cheerfully obeying all orders and standing to their posts.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. W. LATIMER,

*Captain and Acting Chief of Artillery of Ewell's Division.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL R. L. WALKER.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS, December 21, 1862.

Major R. C. MORGAN,

*Assistant Adjutant General:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of the artillery corps of the light division in the engagement of Saturday, the 13th instant:

The batteries of Captains McIntosh and Pegram, with a section of the batteries of Captains Latham, Johnson and Crenshaw, commanded respectively by Lieutenants Potts, Clutter and James Ellett, numbering altogether fourteen guns, had position on the heights near the railroad, supported by the brigades of Brigadier General Field (Colonel Brockenbrough commanding) and Brigadier General Archer. Captains Braxton (Lieutenant Marye commanding Braxton's battery) and Davidson, with five and four guns respectively, took position on the left wing of the light division, in the plain just to the right of Deep Run creek, and were supported by the brigades of Brigadier Generals Pender and Lane. About ten, A. M., the enemy began a desultory fire from several batteries, as if feeling our position. Their fire, about eleven, A. M., became hot and well directed, causing us some loss in men and horses. Captain McIntosh, commanding his own guns, and the sections of Captains Latham and Johnson, and Captain Pegram, commanding his own guns and the section of Crenshaw, were directed to withhold their fire till there should be an infantry demonstration. The enemy, weary of suspense, about twelve, M., formed a front to attack the heights. Their advance, made by a division apparently, was speedily broken and driven back by Captains McIntosh and Pegram's murderous fire—the enemy opening upon them meanwhile very destructively with at least twenty-five guns. This attempt having failed, the enemy, concentrated in mass and in enormous force, moved forward rapidly, protected by a fearful fire from all their guns, toward the point of woods in the plain, in defiance of our guns, which were served rapidly and with great havoc upon their dense ranks. In advancing to, and being routed by, the infantry from the woods, they suffered very heavy loss from the fire of our guns. While the attention of our guns was devoted to their infantry, their artillery caused us heavy loss; but as soon as engaged by our guns their shot flew wide, though in weight of metal they much exceeded us. At half-past three, P. M., Captains McIntosh and Pegram becoming short of men and ammunition, and having one gun disabled and a caisson and limber exploded, they were relieved by the corps of Colonel Brown, except one section of Captain Pegram's battery, which remained till nightfall. Here we lost Lieutenants James Ellett and Z. C. McGruder, whose memory we should not willingly let die. Lieutenant Clutter was wounded also, and many brave men of the rank and file, gallantly doing their duty, were

wounded and killed. On the left of the light division, Lieutenant Marye and Captain Davidson, with their commands, fully sustained their high reputation. Three charges were made upon their position, and gallantly repulsed with canister. Outnumbered in weight of metal, and often closely approached by the enemy's infantry, they as often sent them back with canister and shrapnel, and held their position until it was deemed expedient to abandon it. Captain Braxton was withdrawn about three, P. M., and Captain Davidson at nightfall. Lieutenant Brander, of the latter battery, was slightly wounded.

The guns upon both flanks were served with the coolness of a parade, though exposed to a fire which seemed to fill the air with destruction.

Where all did their duty as well as, I am proud to say, the artillery of the light division did theirs in this engagement, comparison would be invidious. Men and officers vied with each other in their devotion to duty and regardlessness of self. I cannot, however, neglect this opportunity to call your especial attention to Lieutenant J. H. Chamberlayne as particularly deserving notice for his gallant conduct. His services are almost indispensable.

I have the honor to remain,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. L. WALKER,

*Lieutenant Colonel commanding Artillery Light Division.*

REPORT OF CAPTAIN NADENBOUSCH, COMMANDING  
REGIMENT.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND REGIMENT VIRGINIA INFANTRY,  
*Camp near Moss Neck, December 23, 1862.*

LIEUTENANT: In obedience to orders, I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the second Virginia regiment in the battle of Fredericksburg, fought December 13, 1862:

The regiment left camp near Guineas Depot at six o'clock, A. M., on the 12th instant, marched to Hamilton's Crossing, on the Richmond and Fredericksburg railroad, thence in a westwardly direction to a large wood covering the crest of hills overlooking the battle-field. After a number of changes of position, bivouacked for the night in the wood above referred to, in rear of General Gregg's brigade, of A. P. Hill's division, which held the military road.

About nine o'clock, A. M., December 13th, the heavy cannonading on the right and left, and the sharp skirmishing in front, announced the great battle was near at hand. As the day advanced the musketry became more distinct and continuous, and soon the line in front of us became hotly engaged. At this time an order to advance was given, which was done with order and alacrity, marching in a northeasterly direction. The second regiment was on the right of the brigade, and, in consequence of this position, was the only one of the brigade, so far as I know, engaged in the musketry fight. Marching forward in line, with the other regiments of the brigade, I observed that there was no support on our right, and kept a sharp lookout for the safety of that flank. I apprehended that if the enemy was near at hand they would take advantage of this gap, and fall upon our flank at this unguarded point; and so it turned out. How, and in what way, the enemy gained this advanced position, and what disposition had been made of our front line, it is impossible for me to say. The gap was there, and they pushed forward with a large infantry force and a battery of artillery, as was ascertained from prisoners captured and wounded men upon the field. Observing them through the dense foliage at a distance, and the brigadier being at a different point on the line, I took the responsibility of filing my regiment to the right, presenting my front to the enemy. No sooner had I gotten into position than they opened a heavy fire of musketry and artillery, to which the regiment replied rapidly and effectively, men and officers standing to their posts and doing their duty as only veterans know how. I rejoice to be able to say that there were but few men in the regiment who disgraced the name of soldier. It was during this brief but brisk fight that the regiment sustained a loss of three killed and seventeen wounded. Among the latter were Lieutenant William B. Colston, commanding company E, and Lieutenant J. J. Haines, company E.

The enemy soon fled. We then advanced to within a short distance of the railroad, (the front line of the army,) and remained in this position until about seven o'clock, P. M., sending forward company C (Captain Randolph) as skirmishers to the railroad. About this time the brigade was withdrawn to the military road, where we slept upon our arms until half-past three o'clock, A. M., 14th instant, when we were ordered to take position in advance, along the line of railroad. There was quite lively skirmishing during the entire day—had one man wounded.

About five o'clock, A. M., on the 15th instant, the brigade was relieved by Rodes' brigade, of D. H. Hill's division, and returned to the rear in third line—reserve.

During the entire four days of exposure, suspense and danger, both officers and men evinced the true spirit of patriots and soldiers. I cannot but feel proud of the honor of having commanded such men. Captain R. T. Colston, second in command, and Adjutant R. W. Hunter, deserve honorable mention at my hands for gallantry and good conduct during the engagement, and their material aid in the command of the regiment.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Q. A. NADENBOUSCH,  
*Captain commanding Second Regiment Virginia Infantry.*

*LIST OF CASUALTIES in the Second Virginia Infantry, December  
13, 1862:*

*Company A.*—Private Thomas Barr, severely wounded by gunshot, not serious.

*Company E.*—First Lieutenant W. B. Colston, severely wounded by shell, very serious; Second Lieutenant J. J. Haines, severely wounded by musket ball, not serious; private Samuel Stuckey, severely wounded by gunshot, not serious; private Harvey Kite, severely wounded by gunshot, not serious; private N. D. Rittenhour, severely wounded by gunshot, not serious; private Alexander Porterfield, slightly wounded by shell; private John Kiser, mortally wounded and since died.

*Company F.*—Private J. M. Fleming, killed by shell; private Ford Friar, mortally wounded by gunshot.

*Company G.*—Sergeant Charles M. Asquith, slightly wounded by shell; private Fayette Rawlins, severely wounded by shell, serious; private William Kerl, slightly bruised by shell; private Daniel Moler, slightly bruised by shell; private Samuel Fay, slight; private Charles G. Tabb, slight.

*Company H.*—Private J. A. Luck, severely wounded by gunshot, not serious; private James Hicks, slightly; private William Reed, severely wounded by gunshot, not serious.

*Company I.*—Private J. T. Barr, severely wounded by gunshot, not serious.

*Company K.*—First Lieutenant B. W. Moore, slightly bruised by shell.

Total, twenty-one.

J. Q. A. NADENBOUSCH,  
*Colonel commanding Second Virginia Infantry.*

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL EDMONDSON.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-SEVENTH VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS, }  
Camp Paxton's Brigade, December 23, 1862. }

Lieutenant ARNALL,

A. A. A. General First Brigade:

SIR: In obedience to order, I respectfully submit the following report of the participation of my regiment in the late battle of the 13th instant, before Fredericksburg, viz:

General Paxton's brigade, of which my regiment forms a part, occupied, on the morning of the 13th, the rear position, or the third parallel line, in supporting distance of General Gregg's brigade, which occupied a position on the second parallel line. About nine o'clock, A. M., a heavy cannonading commenced, and was kept up till about noon, to which my regiment, and the brigade generally, was severely subjected, but unflinchingly withstood. About noon the infantry became engaged, and the battle, for hours, raged furiously. Our line in front finally seeming to give way, my regiment, together with the remainder of the brigade, *eager for the fray*, moved up rapidly and in good order (passing over troops which, to all appearance, seemed to be doubting as to their duty) to the support of their comrades in front. The enemy, however, had been whipped back in the meantime, and our brigade became not engaged. The remainder of the day was engaged in changing position, but the enemy did not advance.

I sustained no loss in either killed, wounded or missing. I would, however, here remark that I have never seen the officers and men of my regiment behave with more gallantry and with cooler courage, seemingly having determined to conquer or die.

Respectfully,

JAMES R. EDMONDSON,

Lieutenant Colonel commanding Twenty-Seventh Reg't Virginia Vols.

## REPORT OF MAJOR TERRY.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH REGIMENT VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS, }  
December 23, 1862. }

Captain CHARLES S. ARNOLD,

*A. A. A. General Paxton's Brigade :*

SIR : On the 12th instant the fourth regiment Virginia volunteers left camp, five miles northwest of Guineas Station, and moved in the direction of Fredericksburg, arriving at Hamilton's Crossing before noon, remaining near there some hours. Early in the afternoon the regiment, with the brigade, moved forward, and was put in position in rear of a portion of A. P. Hill's division, in the woods west of the railroad, and to the right of the road leading from Hamilton's Crossing in the direction of the telegraph road. The regiment several times changed position during the afternoon, and rested for the night by their guns, a little in rear of the summit in these woods—the fourth regiment during the day occupying the left of the brigade.

Early next morning, the 13th instant, the evidence of the approaching conflict was heard in brisk skirmishing and cannonading, the enemy's shot and shell passing and frequently bursting near the fourth regiment, but doing no damage. Towards noon the regiment was retired a few hundred yards and formed in line of battle, from which position we soon moved forward by the front. Early in this movement Lieutenant Colonel Gardner was severely wounded in the face by a fragment of shell, whilst gallantly leading his regiment, and carried from the field. As the next in rank, I assumed command. The regiment continued to move forward in direction of the heavy infantry firing in front, until we passed the crest of the hill, when we moved by the right flank along, and crossing, the military road. Here the fourth regiment was ordered to take position on the extreme right of the brigade, which was promptly done, and again formed in line of battle. During this time we were exposed to a galling fire of shot and shell, which wounded several of my men.

The engagement still progressing, we were again ordered forward along the military road, and took a position then unoccupied by any troops, some one hundred yards to the west of, and parallel to, the railroad. I threw out skirmishers in front of the regiment, who kept up a brisk fire with the enemy's skirmishers until dark, killing and wounding several of them. We remained here until after night, when I was ordered to follow the twenty-seventh regiment. We moved a short distance to the rear along the military road, by which we had advanced, laying down for the night by the road side.

At three, A. M., 14th instant, we were aroused, moved a few hundred yards through the woods, in the direction of Fredericksburg, and were placed in position behind the embankment of the railroad—the

second Virginia regiment resting upon a skirt of woods which crossed the railcad, and the fourth regiment on the left of the second. We remained in this position during Sunday, the 14th instant, hourly expecting a general advance of the enemy, but the day passed without any incident worthy of notice, beyond the skirmishing between the sharpshooters on both sides. I, however, restrained the fourth regiment, and permitted no firing, and thus protected my men from any loss.

At dawn on Monday morning, the 15th instant, my regiment was relieved from duty on the advance post, and retired, with the brigade, about one mile to the rear, in the woods, where we remained till Tuesday morning, from which place we marched to our present encampment in Caroline county.

Of the conduct of officers and men, from Lieutenant Colonel Gardner down, it affords me great pleasure to speak in the highest terms of commendation. For coolness and steadiness under a trying fire of artillery, I never saw their conduct surpassed. And while they were not called on to participate in an infantry fight they showed they were ready to meet its danger and to do their duty. And I avail myself of this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the officers and men for their cheerful, prompt and ready obedience to orders under every circumstance; and, when all have behaved so well, I should do injustice did I attempt to bestow marked distinction upon any. I must also express my regret at the loss the service has sustained in the wounding of Lieutenant Colonel Gardner, whose whole conduct during this war, on many hard-fought battle-fields, has marked him as a most trustworthy and efficient officer.

I give below a list of the casualties.

Very respectfully, &c.,

WILLIAM TERRY,

*Major commanding Fourth Regiment Virginia Volunteers.*

*LIST OF CASUALTIES in the Fourth Regiment Virginia Volunteers:*

*Field and Staff.*—Lieutenant Colonel Gardner severely wounded in the face.

*Company A.*—Corporal Thomas Chatwell, shot in foot.

*Company C.*—Wounded: Private S. S. Coddall, in right foot; private William Boyd, in left leg; private George Pratt, in left leg; private C. L. Terry, in the back.

*Company D.*—Wounded: Private G. H. Hudge, in right leg; private A. J. Wolfe, in right hip.

*Company F.*—Wounded: Sergeant T. R. Stamper, in foot; private W. S. Shupe, in right hip; private S. O. Canico, in left side.

*Company G.*—Wounded: Sergeant J. H. Sublett, left hip; Corporal G. A. Willis, left arm; private P. Hall, in left hip and breast.

*Company L.*—Wounded: Private J. C. Snider, in left arm.

The wounds in most of the foregoing cases are slight—from fragments of shell. Many have already returned to duty.

WILLIAM TERRY,  
Major commanding Fourth Regiment Virginia Volunteers.

## REPORT OF LIEUTENANT McKENDREE.

HEADQUARTERS CARPENTER'S BATTERY,  
Camp Paxton's Brigade, December 23, 1862. }

General E. F. PAXTON,  
*Commanding First Brigade:*

GENERAL: In obedience to orders, I submit the following report of the part taken by this company in the action of Saturday, the 13th instant:

On the morning of the day above mentioned, about six o'clock, we were conducted by Captain Brockenbrough, then acting chief of artillery, to a position in front of General Branch's brigade, being supported by the seventh North Carolina regiment, which was posted alongside of the railroad, about one hundred yards to our rear. We were instructed to hold our position until our support had passed to the front, then, if necessary, to move to another point some three hundred yards to the rear. As soon as we arrived on the ground the battery was prepared for action, but remained silent, according to orders, until about nine o'clock, A. M., when we observed the enemy advancing on our right in considerable force, (infantry,) when we, in connection with Captains Braxton's and Wooding's batteries, immediately on our right, opened a brisk fire on the advancing column, which caused them to waver and break for a time, but soon reappeared, at the same time advanced several batteries on our left and front to within short range, and opened a destructive fire of artillery on our batteries. When I observed them advancing with artillery on our left, attempting to enfilade our position, (which they had partially succeeded in doing,) I at once despatched a messenger to the commanding officers of two batteries to our left and rear, requesting them to begin firing at once, and, if possible, dislodge the pieces thus advanced. Soon after one or both the batteries began a very slow fire, but without either driving the enemy from his position or attracting the firing in that direction. The fire was so destructive that we were soon compelled to continue the action with three pieces instead of four; and still later withdrew another piece and placed all the available men I then had to the two remaining guns, and thus continued the action until our skirmishers were driven to the rear, and the infantry of the enemy rapidly advancing, which being observed by Captain Brockenbrough, he called on our support to come to our rescue, which they promptly did, passing some twenty yards to our front, and held the enemy in check until we could limber up our two remaining guns, which being done, we retired in good order some minutes after the other batteries had left the field—this being about eleven o'clock, A. M. We left one caisson on the field for want of horses to haul it off. I then took a commanding position some three hundred yards to the rear of my first, and sent the orderly sergeant (having no commissioned officer to assist me) to halt the two pieces

first sent from the field, and which were then moving off with Captain Wooding's battery. He soon returned, informing me that Captain Brockenbrough was riding at the head of the retiring column. Supposing that he intended me to follow, I then moved on. When I came up with him found that he had been severely wounded, in consequence of which he was retiring. He then ordered me to take command of Wooding's battery, in connection with my own, which I did, and reported to General A. P. Hill for orders, who directed me to go to the nearest open field in rear, get as many pieces ready for action as practicable and await further orders. Late in the afternoon I received an order from General Taliaferro directing me to return to a point on the left, near the one occupied in the morning, and open fire on the enemy at once. Arriving near the point designated, met that officer, who informed me that we were too late, directing that we go back and go into camp for the night.

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#### *CASUALTIES:*

Second Lieutenant D. R. Barton, killed ; Second Lieutenant William T. Lambie, wounded, severely ; private Thomas Hastings, killed ; Sergeant F. Karnes, wounded, slight ; Corporal P. O'Conner, slight ; Corporal J. F. Fudge, severe ; privates A. Staff, severe ; A. J. Barrow, severe ; George Myers, severe ; William Baggage, severe ; John Miller, slight ; E. Piper, severe ; John Sawyers, slight ; James Gluver, slight ; Isaac Swindle, slight ; R. Martin, slight ; William Newcomer, slight ; M. Clemm, slight ; H. Loch, severe ; A. McCarty, slight ; J. Hawkins, severe ; John O'Niel, slight ; W. Allemong, severe ; John McCarty, slight ; Joseph Grim, slight ; John Cadwaller, slight ; Joseph Anderson, missing. Ten horses killed and four disabled.

GEORGE McKENDREE,  
*Lieutenant commanding Battery.*

## REPORT OF COLONEL WARREN.

HEADQUARTERS TALIAFERRO'S BRIGADE, December 19, 1862.

Major TALIAFERRO,

Assistant Adjutant General Jackson's Division:

MAJOR: In obedience to orders, I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by this brigade in the recent action near Fredericksburg:

The brigade left its encampment Friday morning about sunrise, and, on arriving at Hamilton's Crossing, was put in position in rear of the Hamilton house, in support of the batteries stationed on the hill. This position it occupied the remainder of the day and that night, but saw nothing of the enemy.

Early Saturday morning I was ordered to the left, and took position in rear and supporting distance of Brigadier General Paxton's brigade, in the following order: Thirty-seventh Virginia regiment, commanded by Colonel T. V. Williams; tenth Virginia regiment, commanded by Captain W. B. Yancey; twenty-third Virginia regiment, commanded by Captain A. S. Richardson; forty-seventh Alabama regiment, commanded by Captain I. M. Campbell; forty-eighth Alabama regiment, commanded by Captain C. B. St. John. During the day I was advanced to the front, until I came up to the second line, at which point I received orders to fall back to the military road and occupy it.

Next morning, in accordance with orders, I occupied the front line on General Paxton's left. Early in the morning my skirmishers engaged those of the enemy for a short time, but during the day and night following this part of the line was remarkably quiet.

Monday morning, being relieved, we retired to the third line. Captain Wooding's battery was detached from the brigade Friday morning, and its action did not come under my observation. It was, however, early in the action, and sustained its reputation for gallantry and efficiency, but, I regret to say, suffered severely—Captain Wooding and Lieutenant Jones both being severely wounded. The loss sustained by the brigade, not including loss in battery, was slight, being two officers and fourteen privates wounded. I refer to the report already furnished for names, &c.

Most respectfully,

E. T. H. WARREN,  
Colonel Tenth Virginia Regiment commanding Brigade.

## REPORT OF COLONEL H. J. WILLIAMS.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS, }  
December 24, 1862. }

Lieutenant C. S. ARNALL,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant General:*

LIEUTENANT: In pursuance of orders from brigade headquarters, I herewith transmit report of this regiment during the engagement near Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862.

On the morning of 12th December, the regiment with the brigade left camp with two hundred and forty-six men, non-commissioned, &c., with seventeen commissioned officers, taking the road leading to Fredericksburg. Having marched a distance of about six miles, we were halted along the railroad and ordered to load; which being accomplished, we marched and countermarched along the railroad. Taking an oblique course across the field to the left of the road, we proceeded along and upon the top of the hills overlooking the valley about and around Fredericksburg, where we remained during the remainder of the day and night, without any thing of importance occurring worthy of note. In the morning at nine o'clock cannonading became very heavy on our right, which continued until the fire was extended along our whole line. During this artillery duel several of the men upon the left of the regiment were wounded, one seriously, in company F. About one o'clock we were again ordered back and formed line of battle four hundred yards in rear of our former position. After remaining in this position a short time the roar of musketry plainly indicated that the battle had commenced. We then moved forward to what is called "the military road" under heavy fire of shell, &c. We were there halted a few moments, then ordered by the right flank, moving forward perhaps half a mile when halted again for a few momets, throwing out skirmishers at the same time, moving forward in line of battle for a few hundred yards to a fence a short distance from the railroad, then we were halted and remained until the firing ceased, which was a little after dark, then we moved back to the military road and remained until near daylight, when we were moved forward and took a position in front along the railroad. In this position we remained during the day and night with no other casualties, save one man wounded in company E. The firing continued during the along the whole line of skirmishers; remaining in this position during the day and night, we were relieved near daylight by General Rodes' brigade, when we took up the line of march, moving back perhaps one mile and a half, where we remained until next morning about nine o'clock, at this period we were ordered to move, taking the direction of Port Royal, we marched until a late hour, where we encamped upon the farm of , in Caroline county, Virginia, where we now are. I must say, in conclusion, with the exceptions already mentioned in a former report, that

men and officers never behaved so gallantly, and, in justice to all, I can give no one more praise than another. Sufficient to say that all were at their posts and did their duty. Annexed you will find list of casualties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
 H. J. WILLIAMS,  
*Lieutenant Colonel commanding Regiment.*

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*List of Casualties in Fifth Virginia Volunteers.*

Company D.—Wounded: Cyrus Lotts, accidentally in finger.

Company E.—Wounded: John Harris, seriously in abdomen.

Company F.—Wounded: Lieutenant John M. Brown, slightly in leg; Private Alfred Sheflet, leg amputated; Sergeant J. Dunlop, slightly in shoulder; Wm. H. Rodgers, seriously in leg; John Jordan, slightly in arm; Wm. T. Baily, slightly in shoulder; James Trimble, slightly in knee.

Company L—Wounded: Corporal Gerard Kin, slightly in leg; F. M. Wood, accidental in finger.

Total number wounded, eleven.

Respectfully,  
 C. H. CALHOUN,  
*Acting Adjutant.*

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